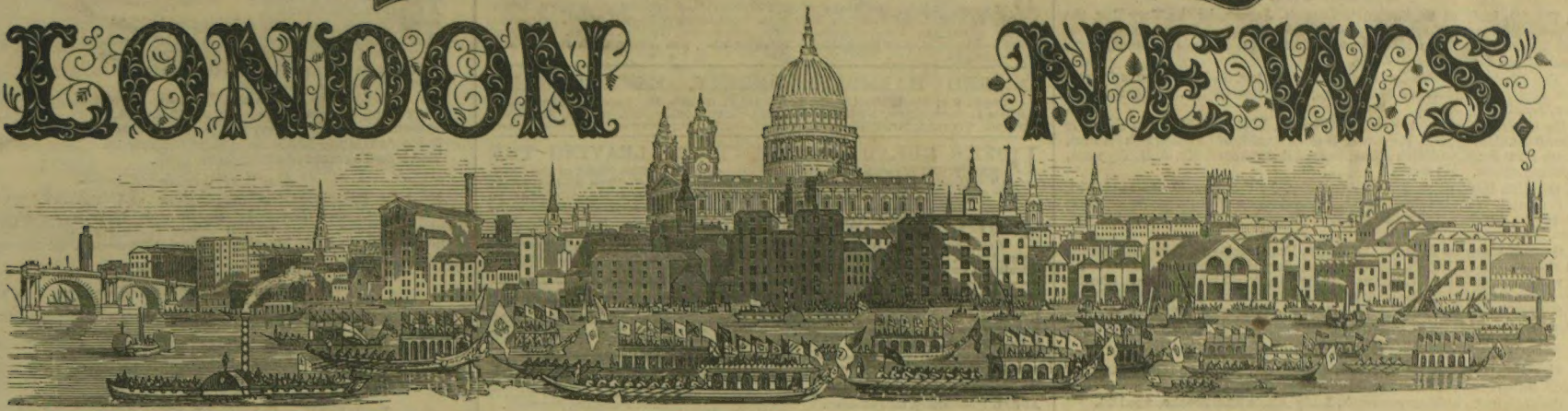


# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

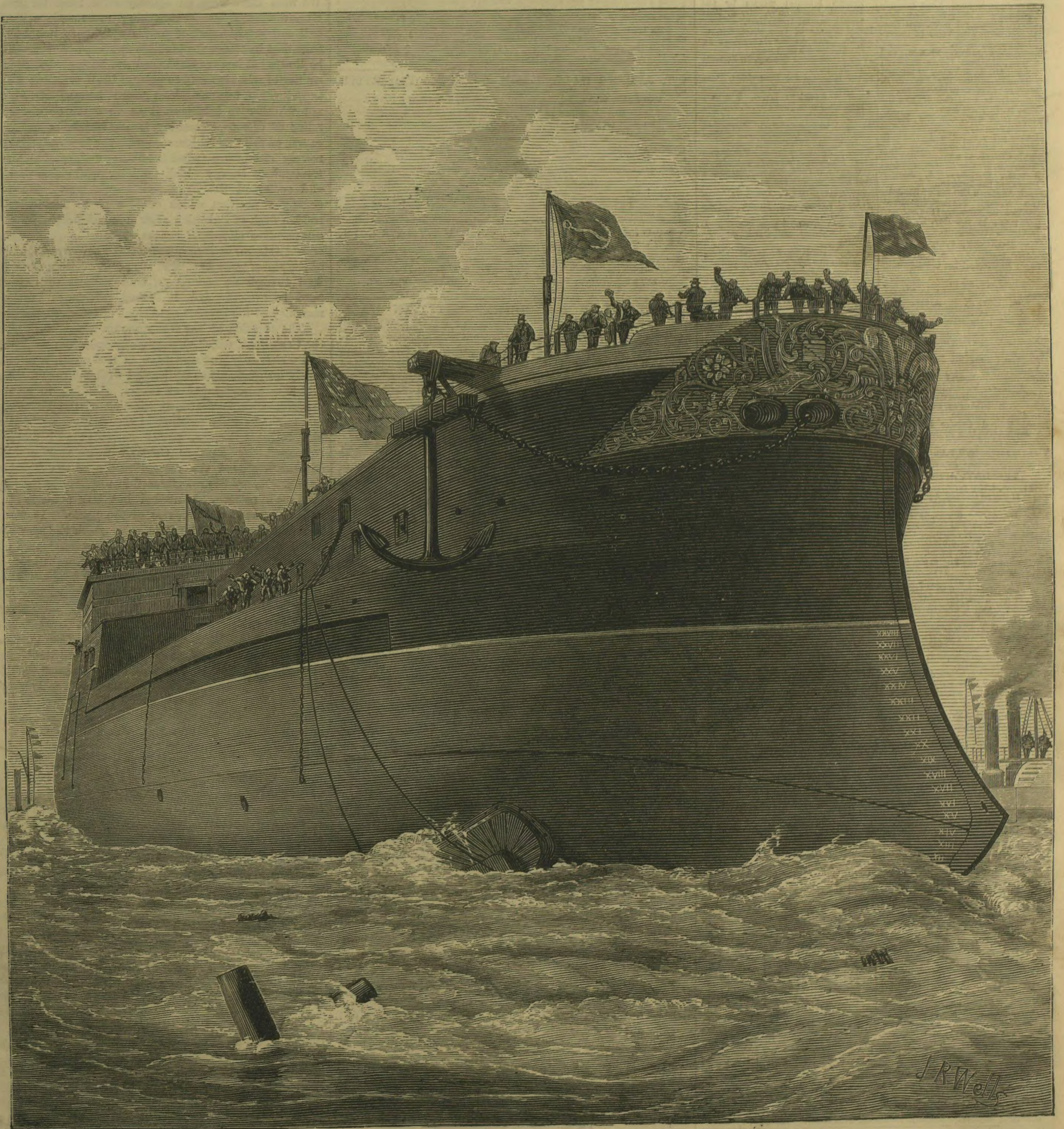


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1862.—VOL. LXVI.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1875.

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT { SIXPENCE.  
By Post, 6½d.



LAUNCH OF H.M.S. ALEXANDRA AT CHATHAM DOCKYARD.



BIRTHS.

On the 10th inst., at 5, Holland Park, W., Mrs. John Halliday, of a son.  
On the 7th inst., at Folkestone, Lady Elibank, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 8th inst., at St. Saviour's Church, Jersey, by the Very Rev. the Dean, John Edward Dickson, Esq., M.B., C.M., of South View, St. Helier's, to Alice Mary Bertram, grand-daughter of the late Francis Bertram, Esq., of Beaulieu, St. Helier's. No cards.

On the 7th inst., at Loddon Church, by the Rev. T. Parr, James Calver, Esq., of Hardley, Norfolk, to Maria, only daughter of Mr. J. Spence, The Beeches, Loddon.

On the 13th inst., at St. Augustine's Church, Highbury New Park, by the Rev. Gordon Calthrop, Mr. Frederick Davies Gould, of Annegarth House, Highbury New Park, to Edith Alma, second daughter of Mr. J. B. Tippetts, of Highbury-grove. No cards.

On the 13th inst., at St. John's, Hackney, by the Rev. T. O. Goodchild, M.A., Frederick Watkins Barlow, Esq., late Captain 20th (East Devonshire) Regiment, to Eleanor, only daughter of Chester Cheston, Esq., of Upper Clapton, Middlesex.

On the 5th inst., at H.B.M. Consulate, Frankfurt-am-Main (and on the 6th, at the Lutheran Church, Homburg vor der Höhe, by the Rev. James Glasgow, M.A., minister of the parish of Coynton, Ayrshire, Scotland), Charles Martin Shaw, Esq., son of the late Brigadier-General Sir Charles Shaw, Knt., K.C.T.S. and K.C.F.S., to Olivia Wilhelmina, youngest daughter of the late John George Claus, Esq., of Frankfurt-am-Main.

DEATHS.

On the 11th inst., at 50, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, Caroline, wife of T. Talbot Bury, F.S.A., aged 61 years.

On the 13th inst., at Bournemouth, Lady Alicia Sherbrooke, aged 26.

On the 9th inst., at Cape di Monti, near Naples, Charlotte, relict of the Hon. Gerard Vanneck, second son of the first Lord Huntingfield, aged 53 years and 9 days.

\* \* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 24.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18.**  
Third Sunday after Easter.  
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. J. B. McCaul, Lord Mayor's Chaplain; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Liddon; 7 p.m., the Rev. E. Slater-Brown, Vicar of Saverneham Forest, Wilts.  
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Rev. Canon Conway; 7 p.m., the Lord Bishop of Exeter.  
St. James's, noon, the Rev. F. B. Zincke, Chaplain to the Queen.  
Whitehall, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Rev. H. L. Thompson.  
Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; 7 p.m., the Rev. F. B. Zincke, Chaplain to the Queen.  
Temple Church, 11 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 3 p.m., the Rev. A. Ainger, Reader at the Temple.  
French Anglican Church of St. John (La Savoy), Bloomsbury-street, services in French, 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., by the Rev. F. B. W. Bouverie, Incumbent.

**MONDAY, APRIL 19.**  
London Institution, 5 p.m. (Professor Bentley on the Classification of Plants).  
Medical Society, 8 p.m.  
Royal Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. B. Atkinson on the Church of Assisi).  
Society of Arts, Canon Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. F. J. Bramwell on the Modern Steam-Engine).  
Gresham Lecture: Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (the Rev. Charlton Lane on Rhetoric).  
Royal Asiatic Society, 8.30 p.m. (Rev. S. Beal on Mount Meru, or the Origin of the Homeric Olympus; Mr. T. H. Blakesley on the Ruins of Sigiri in Ceylon).  
Royal United Service Institution, 8.30 p.m. (Captain E. Rogers on the Gatling Gun).  
Victoria Institute, 8 p.m. (The Philosophy of Locke).

**TUESDAY, APRIL 20.**  
Full moon, 4.30 p.m.  
Royal Humane Society, 4 p.m.  
Races: Epsom Spring Meeting.  
Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Duncan on Physical Geography).  
Statistical Society, 7.45 p.m. (Mr. E. Brabrook on Friendly Societies).  
Pathological Society, 8 p.m.  
Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m. (Discussion on the Manufacture of Steel).  
Zoological Society, 8.30 p.m. (Professor A. H. Garrod on the Deep Plantar Tendons in Birds; Papers by Mr. R. J. Lechmere-Guppy and the Rev. O. P. Cambridge).  
Leeds Annual Cattle Show opens.  
Gresham Lecture: Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (the Rev. Charlton Lane on Rhetoric).  
Young Men's Christian Association, anniversary, Exeter Hall, 7.30 p.m. (the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair).

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21.**  
Levee held by the Commander-in-Chief at the Horse Guards.  
Royal Horticultural Society, 11 a.m.  
Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Dr. Forbes Watson on the Indian Museum Question).

Meteorological Society, 7 p.m. (Mr. R. H. Scott on Sea Temperature Observations on Coasts of the British Islands; papers by the Hon. R. Abercromby, Mr. F. Pastorelli, and M. L. Redier).  
Royal Society of Literature, 8 p.m. (Mr. Vaux on the Excavation in the Colosseum at Rome).  
British Orchestral Society, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.  
Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, annual dinner, London Tavern.  
Gresham Lecture: Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (the Rev. J. Burgon on Divinity).  
Artisans' Institute, 8 p.m. (Discussion on Organised Combinations of Employers and Workmen).  
Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress, anniversary festival, Willis's Rooms, 6 p.m. (the Duke of Edinburgh in the chair).

THURSDAY, APRIL 22.

Races: Lewes and Thirsk Spring Meetings.  
Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor H. G. Seeley on Fossil Flying Animals).  
London Institution, 7 p.m. (Dr. Freeman on the English Language).  
Inventors' Institute, 8 p.m.  
Royal Society, 8.30 p.m.  
Zoological Society Gardens, lecture, 5 p.m. (Mr. J. W. Clarke on Sea Lions).  
Gresham Lecture: Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (the Rev. J. W. Burgon on Divinity).

FRIDAY, APRIL 23.

St. George the Martyr.  
Society of Antiquaries, anniversary, 2 p.m.  
Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. Performance for it at Drury-Lane Theatre at 2 p.m.  
Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 p.m.  
Clinical Society, 8.30 p.m.  
Royal Institution, 8 p.m. (Professor Ramsay on the Pre-Miocene Alps, 9 p.m.).  
Society of Arts, Indian Section, 8 p.m. (Dr. Forbes Watson on Rhea Fibre).  
Royal United Service Institution, 3 p.m. (Capt. Podmore Clark on his Model Apparatus illustrating Drill).  
Gresham Lecture: Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (Dr. Symes Thompson on Physics).  
London Anthropological Society, 7.30 p.m. (Mr. J. Ekless on Cremation Remains in Cambridgeshire; papers by Mr. C. H. E. Carmichael, Mr. A. L. Lewis, and Dr. Charneck).

SATURDAY, APRIL 24.

Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Mr. G. Smith on Assyrian History).  
Society of Schoolmasters, 2 p.m.  
Royal Botanical Society, 3.45 p.m.  
Royal Horticultural Society, promenade, 3.30 p.m.  
Gresham Lecture: Latin, 6 p.m.; English, 7 p.m. (Dr. Symes Thompson on Physics).  
Physical Society, 3 p.m.  
Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society, 8 p.m. (for the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum).  
Richmond Cricket Club, athletic sports.  
First Floral Hall Concert.  
Quebec Institute, 4 p.m., Professor Ella's Musical Lecture.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.  
Lat. 51° 25' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 P.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.					
April 17	30.378	43.2	33.2	71	9	37.5	52.3	WSW.	NNW.	NNE.	125	152
18	30.659	42.2	38.0	86	9	35.9	52.8	SW.	SE.	N.	359	780
19	30.649	41.0	38.5	92	10	38.8	43.2	NNE.	NE.		304	111
20	30.085	42.8	40.7	93	10	40.3	48.1	NE.	NNE.		377	035
21	30.112	44.7	41.4	89	10	41.7	49.7	NNE.	ENE.		326	000
22	30.168	40.2	36.1	86	8	37.8	47.3	NNE.			330	000
23	30.252	41.0	31.5	72	7	36.0	50.0	NNE.	ENE.		150	000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:-

Barometer (in inches) corrected	30.378	30.659	30.649	30.085	30.112	30.168	30.252
Temperature of Air	43.2	42.2	41.0	42.8	44.7	40.2	41.0
Temperature of Evaporation	33.2	38.0	38.5	40.7	41.4	36.1	31.5
Direction of Wind	WSW.	SW.	NNE.	NE.	NNE.	NNE.	NNE.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 24.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 10	1 18	1 35	1 52	2 7	2 22	2 37
4 10	1 18	1 35	1 52	2 7	2 22	2 37

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The Eighty-Fourth EXHIBITION WILL OPEN ON MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1875, at 10 A.M., at the Gallery, 48, Great Marlborough-street.

**BRITISH ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY, St. James's Hall.**  
Patron, H.R.H. the Duke of EDINBURGH.—FOURTH CONCERT, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21. Vocalists, Miss Julia Elton and Mr. Edward Lloyd. Violinist, Mr. Henry Holmes. Band of Seventy-Five. Conductor, Mr. Geo. Mount. Tickets at Lucas and Co.'s, 84, New Bond-street; usual Agents; and Austin's, St. James's Hall, 78, St. James's, 1s.

**SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.**  
Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—FRIDAY, APRIL 30, Costa's Oratorio ELLI, Madame L. Eberington, Madame Fatey, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Santley, Mr. Lewis Thomas. Organist, Mr. Willing. Tickets, 3s., 5s., 10s. 6d., now ready, at 6, Exeter Hall.

**DORE'S GREAT PICTURE, CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM,** with "The Dream of Pilate's Wife," "The Night of the Crucifixion," "Christian Martyrs," "Massacre of the Innocents," "The Soldiers of the Cross," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

**SNOWDON IN WINTER—SUNRISE.**—Exhibition of Works by ELIJAH WALTON, including the above fine Picture and many New Large Alpine, Eastern, and other subjects. BURLINGTON GALLERY, 191, Piccadilly. Admission and Catalogue, 1s. Ten to Six.

**SOCIETY OF LADY ARTISTS.**—Gallery, 48, Great Marlborough-street.—SPECIAL PICTURE by the Artist of "The Roll Call." Exhibition will CLOSE the beginning of MAY. Class for Study from the Living Costume Model now commenced. Prospectus at the Gallery.

**INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.**  
The FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION will OPEN on MONDAY NEXT, APRIL 19.—Gallery, 53, Pall-mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

**MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.**  
MONDAY EVENING NEXT. First time, A TALE OF OLD CHINA, and a new Musical Sketch by Mr. Corney Grain, entitled R. S. V. P. After which THE THREE TENANTS. ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place. Every Evening (except Thursday and Saturday) at Eight. Thursday and Saturday Afternoons at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

**THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS.**  
THE OLDEST-ESTABLISHED AND MOST POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT IN EXISTENCE, NOW IN THE TENTH YEAR OF ONE UNBROKEN SEASON AT THE ST. JAMES'S HALL. The great Company now numbers in its ranks some of the finest Vocalists in England. Its instrumentalists have all been selected from the orchestras of the two Operas and from the Philharmonic Society. The Comedians and Dancers are OLD AND ESTEEMED PUBLIC FAVOURITES. THE WHOLE OF THE SONGS AND MUSIC SUNG BY THIS COMPANY are written and composed expressly for them by the most eminent Authors and Composers of the time, amongst whom may be enumerated Henry S. Leigh, Charles Dumble, P. Stanforth, John Thomson, Alfred Crowquill, E. L. Blanchard, R. Harrison, Godfrey Turner, H. Sampson, W. Meyer Lutz, J. R. Thomas, Charles Blamphin, &c.

**ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.**—All the Year Round. EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT. MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS, THREE AND EIGHT. The world-famed MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS, the oldest-established Company in the World. FORTY ARTISTS OF KNOWN EMINENCE.

**ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.**—Important Notice. MR. WILLIAM S. LESLIE, the marvellous Alto, so many years past one of the most popular and esteemed members of the MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS, is now permanently re-engaged, and will sing at every performance. The quality of Mr. Leslie's voice is even more beautiful than when, while nearly three years of incessant study, has rendered him one of the finest singers on the English stage.

**MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS.**  
ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION OF MR. WILLIAM LESLIE, the marvellous Alto, who returns, after an absence of nearly three years, with a voice more wondrously beautiful than ever. ST. JAMES'S HALL, EVERY NIGHT. EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY AFTERNOON. Pateuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.

**MASKELYNE and COOKE.—EGYPTIAN HALL,** Piccadilly, daily at Three and Eight. Admission, 5s. to 1s. By Royal Command, Messrs. MASKELYNE and COOKE give their marvellous ENTERTAINMENT at Sandringham, on Jan. 11, before H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and a large party of distinguished guests.

**MASKELYNE and COOKE.—PSYCHO,** the greatest wonder of 1875 and the latest Egyptian Hall mystery, is attracting the elite of London. Psycho, a small mechanical figure, only twenty-two inches high, plays a game at whist and performs a series of conjuring tricks without the aid of confederates or the assistance of Mr. Maskelyne.

**THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.**—Revival of DAVID GARRICK on MONDAY NEXT, APRIL 19, in which Mr. SOTHERN will appear as David Garrick, being his thirteenth appearance in that character since his return from America. Squire Chivey, Mr. Buckstone; Ada, Miss Minnie Walton. After which, thirteenth time these twelve years, THE LITTLE TREASURE—Gertrude, Miss Minnie Walton. Stage Manager, Mr. Coe.

**MORNING PERFORMANCES, THIS DAY (Saturday), APRIL 17, and every Saturday at Two o'clock.**—THE LITTLE TREASURE. Followed by DUNDREAR AND SETTLED—Dundreary, Mr. Sothern. Concluding with the SERIOUS FAMILY. Commence at Two; terminate at a Quarter to Five. Box-office open daily from Ten till Five.

**LYCEUM.—HAMLET.—MR. HENRY IRVING.**  
Every Evening, at 7.45, Hamlet. Characters by Messrs. Henry Irving, T. Swinbourne, Chappendale, Compton, E. Leathes, G. Neville, T. Mead, Beveridge, H. B. Conway, Branscombe, &c.; Miss G. Pannecorft and Miss Isabel Bateman. Proceeded, at 6.50, by FISH OUT OF WATER.—Mr. Compton. Box-office open from Ten till Five; doors open at 6.30. Notice.—Morning Performances of "Hamlet" will be given Saturday, May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. No evening performance on these dates. Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Bateman.

**THE TWO ORPHANS,** most enthusiastically received by crowded houses, commences at 7.30, terminates at 11. Every Evening, at the ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

**GLOBE THEATRE.**—Continued and increasing success of LYDIA THOMPSON and Company. Burlesque, BLUE BEARD (revised), at 8.45 every Evening. Preceded by Drama, THE GUINEA STAMP. Prices, 6d. to 25s.

**CRITERION THEATRE, Regent-circus.**—Messrs. Spiers and Pond, Sole Proprietors and responsible Managers.—121st Night.—New Comic Opera by CHARLES LECOCQ.—LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS Every Evening at Eight. Mmes. Pauline Riga, Private Boxes, from 41s. to 23s. 6d.; Stalls, 7s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Pit, 2s. 2d. Amphitheatre, 1s. Doors open at 7.30; commence at 8. Box-office open daily from Ten till Five. A Morning Performance every Saturday at Two o'clock. Acting Manager, Mr. Edward Murray.

**SURREY THEATRE.**—Sole Lessee, W. Holland. SATURDAY EVENING, 17th inst., and during the Week, at 7.30, the highly-successful Surrey Drama, THE FLOWER GIRL. Mr. W. Creswick as the Convict Marquis. Messrs. Henry Fortester, W. H. Stephens, H. C. Sidney, H. Nicholls, &c.; Misses Lewis, Wallace, &c. At Seven, THE SECRET OF THE BRIDGE. Concluding with THE RENDEZVOUS, supported by the Company. SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY, FRIDAY, 23rd inst., entire change of Programme. Great preparations for this GRAND SHAKESPEAREAN CELEBRATION. Doors open at 6.30. Prices from 6d. to 3s. 6d.—Treasurer, Charles Holland; Secretary, Thomas B. Warner.

**NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.**  
Triumphant success of the New Romantic Drama, entitled RANK and FAME, by Leonard Rae and Frank Stainforth.—To be followed by the celebrated Scotch Drama, HAL O' THE WYND—Miss Furtado and Mr. Dewhurst.

**SANGER'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.**—Continued Brilliant Success! Crowded Houses!—ROUND THE WORLD IN TWO HOURS, via Hamilton's Delightful Excursions at Home and Abroad. New and magnificent scenery. Original characteristic sketches and impersonations by a selected company of eminent artists. National Music by the Band. EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY at 3. Doors open at 2.30. To-night at 8. Doors open at 7.15. The Popular Prices:—Dress Circle, 3s.; Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. The Great Mackey will shortly appear.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—CALENDAR for WEEK ending APRIL 24, 1875.  
MONDAY, APRIL 19.—Exhibition of Carriages, Harness, &c.  
TUESDAY, APRIL 20.—English Comedy, Colman's JEALOUS WIFE.—Mrs. Herman Vein, &c. Carriage Exhibition.  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21.—Exhibition of Carriages, Harness, &c.  
THURSDAY, APRIL 22.—English Comedy, Shakespeare's TAMING OF THE SHREW. Carriage Exhibition.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 23.—Last Day of Carriage Exhibition.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 24.—Mr. Mann's Benefit Concert.  
Monday to Friday, One Shilling; Saturday, Half-a-Crown; or by Guinea Season Ticket.

**ALEXANDRA PALACE.**  
GRAND OPENING FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, MAY 1.  
BAND AND CHORUS, 1200 PERFORMERS.  
The Musical Arrangements, in which the Principal Artists of Her Majesty's Opera will take part, will be under the entire direction of Sir MICHAEL COSTA.  
Full particulars will be duly announced.  
Admission Tickets, 5s. if purchased before the day; by payment at the doors, 7s. 6d.; or by the Guinea Season Ticket, which includes Membership of the Alexandra Palace Art-Union, and is now On Sale at the Company's Offices and their Agents.

THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS OF APRIL 17

contains the following Engravings:—

Captain Borton's Voyage.  
A Cigar in Mid-Channel.  
Scene from Nicholas Nickleby at the Adelphi.  
The Alexandra Palace—Sketches in the Grounds.  
Conrad and Medora at the St. James's Theatre.  
A Day with Harriers, by Miss G. Bowers.  
Over Hurdles—A Mile Out.  
Mr. Cave forsakes Drama and Faree for Ballet and Opera-Bouffe.  
Devon and Cornwall Wrestling at Plymouth.  
Presentation to Mr. Barry Sullivan at Liverpool.  
Sable Antelope—Black and White Rhinoceros.  
The New Racecourse at Sandown Park.

Also the following articles:—

Rugby's Racing Notes—Bull-baiting and Bull-fighting, by Walter Thornbury—Cricket Notes by B. W.—A Special Account of Captain Boyton's Voyage—Sport on the Upper Tributaries of the Limpopo—The London Athletic Club Meeting—Music—Chess—and all the Sporting and Dramatic News of the Week.

Published at 198, Strand, Every Saturday—Price Sixpence.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1875.

Within the last few days a slight political earthquake has been felt on the Continent, which, although of brief duration, attested the existence, and to a certain extent the activity, of pent-up volcanic agencies that at no very distant period may possibly exert a destructive power. There is good ground for believing that the crisis is past. We wish there were an equally solid basis for the conclusion that it denotes nothing more serious than the extreme sensitiveness of public opinion to every appearance that indicates the possible approach of war. It may be that what has occurred need not be regarded as a forerunner of what is likely to present itself in a more alarming aspect some two or three years hence. One knows not whether to interpret it as an omen or simply as a relic; as due to disturbing forces, which, in the natural course of things will increase with the lapse of time, or as merely exhibiting what remains unexpended of that tremendous energy which no long while since produced and sustained the Franco-Germanic war. We do not occupy a position which enables us to decide. Like a sudden flash of lightning after a considerable interval of comparative elemental repose, it may be the presage of another storm, or it may prove to be the expiring outburst of the storm gone by. But the effect of it is disquieting. And though no immediate consequences of importance need be apprehended, it shakes confidence in the permanency of the present conditions of international peace.

The occasion of the war rumours which have troubled the Continent, which were slightly operative in England, and which only just now have melted away, was marvelously insignificant as contrasted with the result. A short article in a newspaper at Berlin, alluding in somewhat oracular style to the reorganisation of the French army and to the friendly meeting of the Sovereigns of Austria and Italy at Venice, partly corrected and partly corroborated by another German newspaper of higher authority, stirred the susceptibilities of the Continental public. Every Bourse vibrated in response to the impulse thus set in motion. It needed but little reflection to stay and to reverse the progress of the panic. It was soon made apparent that the facts upon which the speculations of the Berlin journals based their inferences were in their own nature too narrow to justify the apprehension which they had been used to excite. There is no doubt that the French authorities are engaged in reconstructing their army upon an extensive scale. They have been so engaged for the last two years. It was to be expected after the issue of the late war that they would be so engaged. Their plans for effecting this purpose, it is true, have been embodied in legal provisions, and so far may be looked upon as complete. But plans and the realisation of them in facts are far from being identically the same thing. It is well known, and nobody can be more fully acquainted with the fact than Marshal MacMahon, that at the present moment the French army is very far indeed below that standard of efficiency to which it is intended to raise it; and that just now a war with Germany would place it at a disadvantage which it requires considerable time to do away with. Germany, therefore, has no cause to fear any sudden warlike movement against her on the part of the rulers of France, and the statesmen of Germany are probably as well acquainted with the true state of the facts as they need to be to arrive at a sound conclusion.

On the other hand, neither is it to the interest of Germany to precipitate war. The great object of Prince Bismarck's policy is the permanent consolidation of the Empire, which he has been the instrument of building up. Just now he has enough upon his hands. The conflict which he is waging against the Papacy to establish the supremacy of the civil over the ecclesiastical authority throughout Germany is one which, whatever may be the issue, sufficiently taxes the Chancellor's energies. The influence of Rome over the Latin races is not to be despised, and it is highly probable that, under any circumstances, Germany will have to bear the brunt of the struggle alone. She cannot afford to provoke other opponents. She might possibly bring into the field against her, not merely France, but France more or less intimately allied with Austria, Italy, and Spain. Prince Bismarck is a bold man—we might almost say a



man of audacious bearing—but he is also a sagacious statesman. He knows where to draw the line between discretion and courage; and, although probably well prepared by the internal organisation of the empire to defend it against any onset by any single Power, he is likely to be cautious enough against pursuing any course which might provoke a coalition of neighbouring nations against it. To keep as quiet as possible, to cement into one solid body the different members of the empire, and gradually to permeate all the States and Principalities of which it is composed with a feeling of supreme regard for Fatherland, is obviously the interest of the German people, as it is also the policy of their present rulers. Neither on the part of France, therefore, nor on that of Germany, does the set of the current take the direction of instant war.

This is all that can be made of existing facts at present. Thus much all well-informed politicians take for granted. Hence the speedy evaporation of those misty rumours which lately hovered over the Continent. It is not impossible that the restraint imposed upon both France and Germany by present circumstances may last long enough to admit of the growth of international amity between them. Waterloo was supposed to be a certain incentive to future conflict between France and England; but, happily, the confident predictions of half a century ago have all been falsified. History may repeat the precedent in the case of France and Germany. We are afraid that this is not so likely as it is desirable. It is too flattering a prospect to be anticipated with unflinching hope. But, at any rate, the evil which is reasonably to be feared can hardly be considered an immediately impending one. There is no visible ground for any present apprehension of a disturbance of the peace. This should suffice to calm our minds. What the future may bring forth none of us can foresee. But unless we thereby traverse the conclusions of reason, trust is wiser than fear, and hope more profitable, as well as more pleasant, than alarm.

#### THE COURT.

The Queen continues at Osborne House. Madame Norman-Néruda, Mr. Hallé, and Mr. Cusins performed upon the piano-forte and violin in the presence of her Majesty and the members of the Royal family on Wednesday week. The Queen's dinner party included Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Leopold, Lady Churchill, the Hon. Caroline Cavendish, the Hon. Evelyn Paget, Colonel the Hon. H. Byng, Sir Howard Elphinstone, and Mr. Collins. The Duke of Connaught left Osborne the next day. The Right Hon. R. A. Cross arrived on Saturday and, with the Rev. George and Mrs. Prothero, dined with her Majesty.

The Queen, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service on Sunday at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero and the Rev. W. Barker, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, West Cowes, officiated.

Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, with three of their children, arrived at Osborne on Tuesday.

Princess Beatrice attained her eighteenth year on Wednesday. The usual honours were observed.

The Queen, with the members of the Royal family, has walked out daily within the Royal demesne, and has driven to Newport and Cowes, and to other places in the island.

The funeral of Mr. Gerding (formerly page of the back stairs to the Queen) took place at Slough yesterday week. Sir John Cowell attended the funeral by command of her Majesty as a mark of respect to the memory of one of the oldest servants in the Queen's household, Mr. Gerding having entered the service of George IV. in 1821, and retired in 1867.

Mr. John Grant, who has filled the office of head game-keeper to the Queen during the period her Majesty has owned the estate of Balmoral, has just retired from service, and her Majesty has granted him an annuity with a residence.

The Queen has appointed Major Montagu John Battye, late Indian Army, one of her Majesty's Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, vice Charles Tyler, resigned.

#### THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Connaught visited the Prince and Princess of Wales on Thursday week, and remained to luncheon. The Princess and Princess afterwards visited the Duchess of Cambridge at Kew. The Prince attended the House of Lords on the following day. His Royal Highness and the Princess went to the Princess's Theatre in the evening. Their Royal Highnesses visited the exhibition of pictures by artists of the Continental schools at the French Gallery, Pall-mall, on Saturday last. The Prince and Princess attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, on Sunday. The Prince, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales, left Marlborough House on Monday for Sandringham; the Princess was prevented accompanying the Prince in consequence of the indisposition of Princess Victoria of Wales.

The Prince, during his late visit to Paris, forwarded a contribution of 250*l.* to the funds of the Paris Young Men's Christian Association.

#### PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS OF HESSE-DARMSTADT.

Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt, accompanied by their six children, arrived at Dover on Monday, from the Continent. After passing the night at the Lord Warden Hotel, the Prince and Princess, with Princess Alix, Princess Mary, and Prince Ernest Louis of Hesse, left for Osborne, on a visit to the Queen, the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West being in attendance on their Royal Highnesses from Dover to Portsmouth, and Sir John and Lady Cowell from Portsmouth to Osborne. Princess Victoria, Princess Ella, and Princess Irene of Hesse proceeded to Buckingham Palace.

Entertainments have been given by the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, the Marquis of Hartington, Earl and Countess Beauchamp, the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord and Lady Stanley of Alderley, Sir John and the Hon. Lady Sebright, and the Premier.

A marriage is arranged between Lord Wodehouse, son of the Earl and Countess of Kimberley, and Isabel Geraldine, fifth daughter of Sir Henry J. Stracey, Bart.

A marriage (says *Galvani*) is to take place between the second son of the Duke de Broglie and Mdle. Say, daughter of the Minister of Finance. The bride brings a dowry of

12,000,000*fr.* and the splendid château of Chaumont, recently purchased from Viscount Walsh, formerly one of the Emperor's chamberlains, who had become proprietor of it by his marriage with the Marquise d'Aramont. Mdle. Say is sister of Viscountess Tredern.

The Duke d'Ossuna, of Spain, is about to marry the Duke d'Albi's second daughter, niece to the Empress Eugénie. The bride's trousseau and presents are valued at £320,000. The Duke d'Ossuna passes for the richest man in Spain.

#### CAPTAIN BOYTON'S CHANNEL TRIP.

On Saturday last Captain Paul Boyton sustained a defeat which was more glorious than a victory. He attempted to cross the English Channel in the Merriman life-saving suit; and was persuaded eventually to give up before the feat was accomplished, but not until he had been in the water fifteen hours, covering over fifty miles, and being within six miles of the French coast when he went, against his will, on board the accompanying steam-tug. It was in April, it may be remembered, that Byron and Lieutenant Ekenhead made the unsuccessful endeavour to swim across the Hellespont, which was followed by their accomplishment of that undertaking on May 3, 1810; and it is not at all improbable that Captain Boyton's April failure will be similarly crowned with success, as he announced on Monday his fixed resolve to set out soon on a second voyage across the Channel. The indiarubber dress in which Captain Boyton is so much at home in the water was so fully illustrated and described in the Number of the *Illustrated London News* for March 13, apropos of the gallant captain's river trip from Westminster Bridge to Greenwich, that we need say no more now than that the waterproof suit entirely envelops the wearer from head to foot, with the exception of his face, which is left exposed by an oval opening in front of the helmet-hood. The marine costume is rendered buoyant by the inflation of five air-tight compartments, one of the most important of which forms an air-cushion or pillow for the back of the head.

Captain Boyton, a comely young man between twenty-six and twenty-seven years of age, and a native of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, is Captain of the New Jersey Life-Saving Service. His courage is undeniable. How he landed on the Irish coast last autumn, after an arduous paddle of several hours' duration from the steamer Queen, is well known to our readers. His various subsequent performances, including his appearance before her Majesty the Queen on Monday week, are of too recent occurrence to be dilated upon. He was not in first-rate condition for last Saturday's adventure; and at the last moment there was an awkward delay in donning his indiarubber suit, through the misfit of some of his underclothing. The veteran French pilot sent over to accompany the venturesome voyager by M. Longuet, President of the Boulogne Humane and Life-Boat Society, had fixed three o'clock in the morning for the time of starting; and M. Méquin, the pilot in question, brought with him a special chart of the Channel, on which the course he recommended was carefully drawn. According to this chart, M. Méquin reckoned that, by starting at three sharp, Captain Boyton would be carried up Channel by the flood to an easterly point, whence he could run down Channel with the ebb on the French side of the long shoal known as the Ridge, or the Colbart, until the tide should again turn, and carry him ashore somewhere between Boulogne and Cape Grisnez.

Twenty minutes past three, however, was the time the start was delayed to; and it is to the loss of this important twenty minutes that Captain Boyton's ultimate failure, if failure it can be justly termed, may be attributed. Clad in his grey suit, and furnished only with a flask of brandy, a fog-horn, a small axe in a sheath, and his canoe paddle, Captain Boyton walked from the Lord Warden to the pier, and, at the hour already mentioned, started on his plucky expedition in the manner illustrated by our Artist, who accompanied him in the steam-tug Rambler, the firing of a gun from which stout little craft, with a display of fireworks and the hearty cheering of the spectators on board and on the pier, celebrated his departure from the English coast. He glided into the water with the ease of a sea-lion, turned on his back, and quickly propelled himself out of Dover harbour with his paddle, progressing feet first, as usual. The wind was N.N.E., favourable for his project. Once fairly out in the Channel, he rode over the waves with astonishing ease. Frequently quite half a mile distant from both the Rambler and the pilot-lugger that also conveyed him, he seemed not to concern himself as to their whereabouts, but paddled serenely on, only sounding a cheery note on his fog-horn when those on board the Rambler had completely lost sight of him for a time. Proceeding in an easterly course, he made good progress in the first hour. A little later he called for his sail. What looked like the small mainsail of a miniature yacht was then fixed into a tube fastened to the sole of his boot; and, with sail set, he rode more fleetly than ever over the billows, steadying and steering himself with his paddle. The grey light of dawn and the electric flashes from the South Foreland could now be seen by him to the left. Day broke dull and cheerlessly, and Captain Boyton seemed to require the solace of his first morning cigar. One was duly lit, and handed to him from the Rambler, and on he ploughed again, in no wise prevented from enjoying his cigar by the wash of the sea, and the spray which dashed over his face. The easterly course was persevered in till half-past six, when he turned with the turn of the tide, and sailed down Channel with the ebb. He had made such good way by a quarter-past seven that two carrier-pigeons were sent off for Folkestone with messages, announcing his success so far. Breakfast in the not very palatable shape of a mixture composed of Liebig's extract of meat, milk, and the yolk of eggs was taken to him at half-past seven; but, unappetising as it was, this breakfast had to be food for the fishes. An hour and a half later, the doctor put off in a boat again to persuade him to take some bread and butter; but this he threw away, contenting himself with a draught of egg-mixture. He then seemed drowsy and irritable, according to the doctor's report. His report impelled Mr. Michael Boyton, the cheery brother of the Captain, to jump into the boat and hasten to encourage his brother. Holding on to the boat, Captain Boyton then took a good rest, had his sail shifted from one foot to the other, and, like a giant refreshed, resumed his trying battle with the waves. The waves grew more and more turbulent. He was soon seen gallantly struggling in a nasty short and choppy sea; and the French pilot regretfully announced that Captain Boyton was on the Ridge or the Colbart—not on the French side of the submerged bank. Pilot Méquin foresaw the long and arduous struggle with these vicious waves that would be before Boyton, and he urged, but urged in vain, that the captain should be taken on board the Rambler for twenty minutes—just an equivalent to those precious twenty minutes lost in starting—and be conveyed across the troublesome ridge. "Mon Dieu!" exclaimed the French pilot, "Regard the current! It will sweep your brother to England—to Dungeness—if he will not come on board for only twenty minutes." But Mr. Boyton

would not listen to the pilot's pleading. He said his brother was now better than when he started; and so the captain certainly seemed to be. A little cherry-brandy had infused fresh spirit into him, and he puffed away at his second cigar with great zest as the north-easterly wind filled his tiny sail and enabled him to stem the tide running against him. The Varne light-ship lay nearly three miles to his right, and remained in sight for a wearisome time. Nothing daunted, Boyton still kept "pegging away." Noon passed, and a little while later he had his reward. He had traversed the Ridge. He was now in the deeper water and longer swell of the Channel. Even Pilot Méquin spoke hopefully as the tide again turned, and Boyton made for the French coast, one moment lost to view in the trough of the sea, the next looking like a seagull skimming the crest of the wave. At two o'clock he had most encouraging proof that he was in the right track at last. The Folkestone steamer Napoleon III., en voyage to Boulogne, passed within hailing-distance, and the passengers cheered the venturesome young American on his lonely journey by a round of hearty hurrahs. "All right!" the daring captain shouted, in answer to the inquiry of how he felt; and it was afterwards learnt that Boyton's reply was duly delivered by the captain of the Folkestone steamer to the thousands who thronged Boulogne jetty as early as three in the afternoon to witness his arrival. Buoyant though he was, however, Boyton made but little progress, although inspirited anew at four o'clock by the welcome sound of another round of British hurrahs, which came cheerily over the waters from the returning Folkestone packet, which dipped her ensign in honour of the intrepid voyager, a compliment that the little Rambler responded to by dipping the American flag.

The wind became brisker during the next two hours, the weather was hazy, and it threatened to be a rough night. Land was not in sight; the French pilot appeared uncertain of his whereabouts, and once again became gloomy. At six o'clock he emphatically declared he would not be responsible for Captain Boyton's safety after dark, but would resign all charge of the Rambler if the captain did not come on board. He argued that, in the darkness of the night, it would be impossible for the tug to keep in sight of the captain; that, with nothing whatever to guide his course, he might drift no one could tell whither, and might be in imminent danger of losing his life. Captain Boyton's brother in vain protested against this decision, saying that his brother was yet strong and well, and could remain in the water twelve hours longer. Pilot Méquin was firm. The members of the press on board the Rambler then begged Captain Boyton to yield to the pilot's humane and reasonable advice. Manfully protesting he felt fully able to reach the French coast—giving a practical proof of his stamina at that moment, moreover, by discarding his sail, and vigorously paddling right round the Rambler—Captain Boyton at length gave up his courageous undertaking sorely against his will, climbing on board, warmly cheered by everyone, at ten minutes past six, after being in the water close upon fifteen hours, and covering a distance of quite fifty miles. The point at which he was compelled to give up was subsequently ascertained to be about five or six miles from Cape Grisnez, and ten or twelve miles from Boulogne. Captain Boyton came on deck as the Rambler drew near this favourite French watering-place, and superintended the display of rockets that was to notify his arrival. He was rowed ashore in the pilot boat, and received an enthusiastic greeting from several thousand persons who had gathered on the jetty to welcome him, and who evidently believed he had actually, as he had virtually, accomplished the unparalleled feat he had so fearlessly undertaken. He now became the guest of the hospitable Société Humaine et des Naufrages de Boulogne, at whose station he slept for the night. He rose at six so refreshed that his comely, sunburnt face looked brighter far than that of any of his fellow-voyagers.

Her Majesty the Queen (who, as well as General Schenck, the American Minister, had telegraphed to Dover to inquire whether the wind favoured the captain's enterprise) received a telegram on Saturday night announcing the arrival at Boulogne. On Sunday morning, there came back a telegram from General Ponsonby, her Majesty's private secretary, saying that the Queen had learnt the news of his safe arrival at Boulogne with much pleasure, and congratulating him on the success of his expedition. Lord Mayor Stone sent a similar telegram, and further congratulations poured in upon Captain Boyton. The report of Dr. Diver, of Southsea, who accompanied him across the Channel, showed that the captain was "suffering from slight hepatic derangement" before he started from Dover; that the temperature of his body was 97.7 Fahrenheit previous to his departure, and 97 and a trace when he was forced to give in; that he showed no visible signs of distress at the finish, and could have continued his exertions six hours longer. The captain himself, whilst acknowledging the humane consideration for his safety shown by those who caused him to leave the feat unaccomplished, announced during his lecture at the Etablissement on Monday night that he had resolved to make a second attempt to cross the English Channel. On Tuesday Captain Boyton gave an exhibition of the buoyant qualities of his waterproof and air-tight dress in front of the quay, and received, as a crowning offering, a handsome bouquet from one of the prettiest young fisherwomen of Boulogne. Captain Boyton returned to Dover on Wednesday afternoon, and met with an enthusiastic welcome on landing. He returned from Boulogne to fulfil an engagement on Thursday at the Dublin Zoological Society's Gardens.

The post of Solicitor to the Admiralty, vacant by the death of Mr. Bristow, will not be filled up at present.

Thirty-four children were admitted last week into the Licensed Victuallers' School, Kemington-lane, making the number of children now in the school 191.

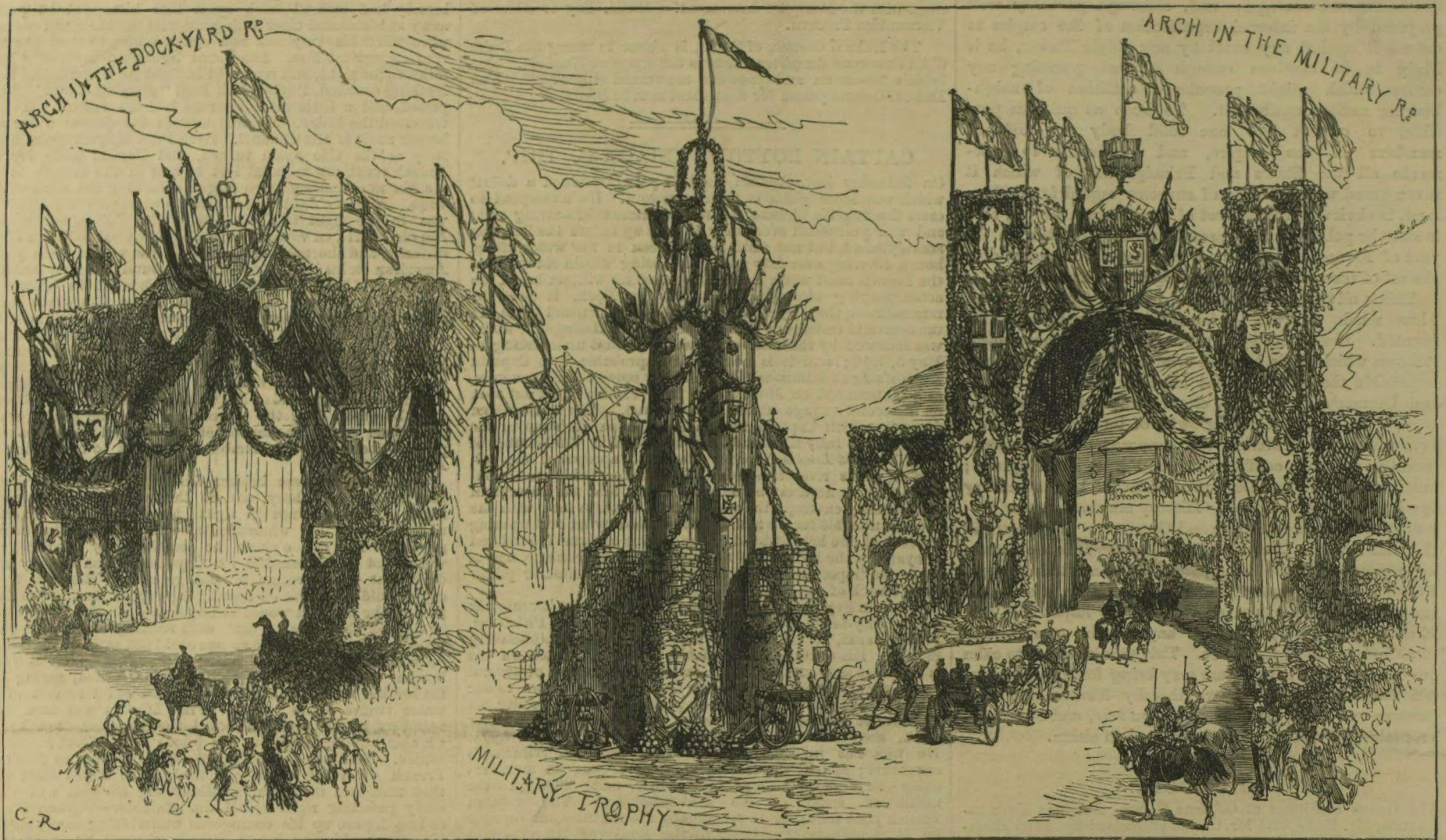
The new Alexandra Dock at Newport, Monmouthshire, was opened on Tuesday morning by the Mayoress, Mrs. Evans. The dock was begun in 1868, and has cost nearly half a million.

A full parade took place at Aldershot on Tuesday, at which Colonel Prevost, of the 23rd Fusiliers, on behalf of the Queen, presented fifty-seven non-commissioned officers and privates with medals and clasps for their services during the Ashantee campaign.

Sir George Campbell and Mr. W. J. Harker were, on Tuesday, nominated as candidates for the representation of Kirkcaldy. The polling will take place on Tuesday next.—Three candidates were on Wednesday nominated for the representation of Meath—Mr. Charles Stewart Parnell, Mr. John Thomas Hinds, and Mr. James L. Napier.

The notice we gave last week of the parentage of Sir Arthur Gordon, the new Governor of the Fiji Islands, was incorrect in the name of his mother's family; she was Harriet Douglas, a daughter of the Earl of Morton, not Minto, as printed; and she first married Viscount Hamilton, father of the present Duke of Abercorn, but, secondly, the fifth Earl of Aberdeen.





THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AT CHATHAM: TRIUMPHAL ARCHES.

## LAUNCH OF H.M.S. ALEXANDRA.

The Princess of Wales, accompanied by his Royal Highness, performed the ceremony of launching the new ironclad warship Alexandra at Chatham Dockyard on the Wednesday of last week. The name of this ship had been changed from the "Superb" in honour of that Royal Lady. H.M.S. Alexandra has taken nearly three years to construct. She is a masted ship, a broadside ocean-going ironclad, built for speed and for carrying the maximum weight of armour and armament consistent with seaworthy qualities. The distinguishing features of the Alexandra among masted ironclads may be thus stated:—

1. Powerful fire ahead and astern from elevated batteries—viz., two guns of 25 tons and two of 18 tons ahead, and two of 18 tons astern.
2. A powerful broadside fire, one gun of 25 tons and five of 18 tons.
3. Double screws (giving two means of propelling and two of steering) and a complete separation between the two sets of propelling machinery and boilers.
4. The establishment of the entire heavy artillery of the ship in three separate armoured batteries instead of in one, or at most two, as is usual.

Built on the model of the Hercules, the Alexandra is a more powerful vessel of war than that well-known ship, both as regards armour and armament; for while the Hercules does not carry in any part more than 9 in. of armour, the Alexandra is intended to carry in her most vulnerable parts 12-in. armour-plate and in other less vulnerable parts 9-in. and 10-in. armour-plates. In other words, the strength of the Alexandra's armour is seven times as great as that of the Warrior, and nearly twice that of her prototype, the Hercules. Outside, the Alexandra has a skin-plate 1½ in. in thickness, and a teak backing of 10 in. and 12 in. She has close upon 14 in. of iron-armour to defend her in the most vital parts, one thickness being 12 in. solid. Having seen what the Alexandra is in defensive and resisting power, let us turn to the consideration of her armament. On what corresponds to the central or principal battery of the Hercules the Alexandra will carry two 25-ton guns and two guns of 18 tons each (throwing 400-lb. projectiles); eight or ten guns of 18 tons each will guard her upper deck, and, like her prototype, she will have either two or four chase guns to protect her fore and aft. For purposes of comparison it may be added that the armed strength of the Hercules is as follows:—Eight 18-ton guns on her central battery, two 12-ton guns fore and aft, and four 6½-ton guns on her upper deck. In point of speed the Alexandra is expected to attain 14 knots an hour. Her principal dimensions are—Length between perpendiculars, 325·0; extreme breadth, 63·8; depth in hold, 18·7½; burden in tons, 6049 19·94; displacement in tons, 9492·2; draught of water—Forward, 26·0; ditto, aft, 26·6.

The design for the Alexandra was prepared under the supervision of Admiral Robert Hall, C.B., the late Controller of the Navy, and it has been modified by Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, G.C.B., the

present Controller. Mr. N. Barnaby is chief naval architect, or Director of Naval Construction.

It has not been usual, of late, in the Royal dockyards, to launch heavy ironclad ships with their armour-plates on, but to float them out of a dry dock. The launch of H.M.S. Northumberland, as well as the foreign ships *Independenzia* and *König Wilhelm*, built by private contractors, gave much anxiety and trouble. But in the case of the Alexandra, by the skilful arrangements of Mr. R. P. Saunders, chief constructor at Chatham Dockyard, the operation was successfully managed.

The town of Chatham was gaily decorated with five triumphal arches, and rows of masts, hung with wreaths of artificial flowers, from the railway station to the upper drawbridge, and in the dockyard. Beyond the drawbridge, where the town is left and the garrison precincts are entered, was a characteristic trophy made up of pontoons and fascines, wreathed with flags and laurels and surrounded with field-

guns and mortars, the work of the Royal Engineers. The walls were hung with banners and shields bearing the insignia of the regiments in garrison. The road along its whole length was kept clear by troops. At the station was a guard of the Royal Engineers; and the second battalion 17th Regiment, the third battalion 60th Rifles, and the 77th Regiment lined the streets up to the dockyard gates, from which point a thousand sailors took up the space to the building-slip, where stood a field-officer's guard of the Royal Marines, with their colours and band. All these were under the charge of General Erskine, Commandant of the district. A lofty dais, richly carpeted and decorated, was erected close by the bows of the vessel for the reception of the Prince and Princess and other distinguished personages invited to the ceremony. The galleries nearest were reserved for peers; another space was set apart for members of the Lower House; and the remaining seats were given up to officers off duty, dockyard officials, country gentry of the district, and the leading inhabitants of Chatham. All officers of both services were in full dress.

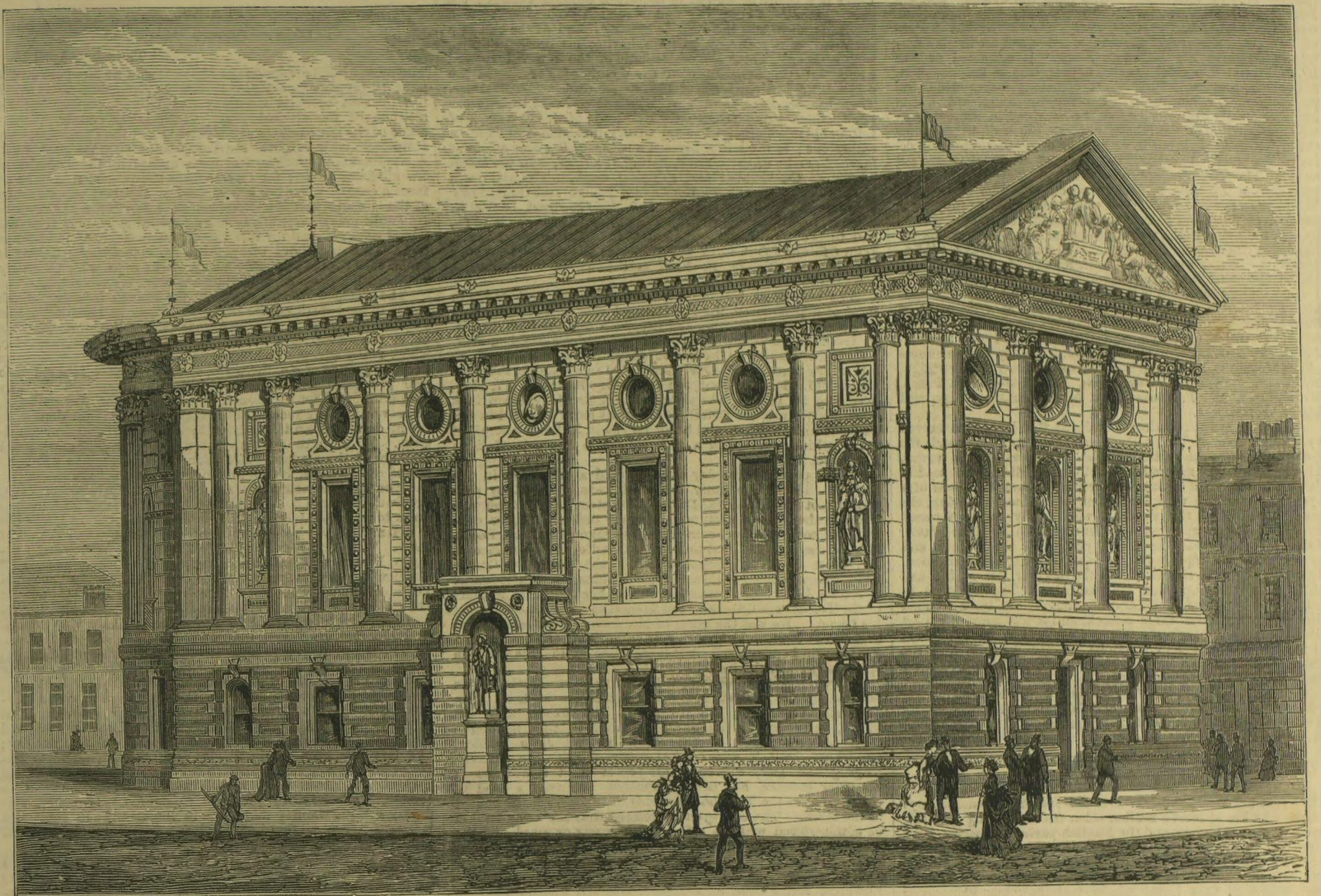
The first arrivals were the Lords of the Admiralty, who embarked in a steamer at Strood Pier, and, after breakfasting on board the *Enchantress*, were taken, with their guests, to the North Pier and landed, in order that they might proceed at once to the ship. The ten o'clock train from Victoria brought members of both Houses of Parliament. Within a few minutes of twelve the Royal train drew up at the platform of Chatham station, amid cheers from the people and the firing of a salute from *Spur Fort* and the *Duncan* flagship from the *Nore*. At the station the members of the court-leet of the hundred and manor of Chatham and Mr. Humphrey Wood, the high constable, were introduced to the Prince of Wales, and presented an address. The Prince having briefly replied, he and the Princess passed on to the carriages in waiting for the Royal party. There were four open carriages, each drawn by four horses; in other carriages which came in the rear were Admiral Hastings, Captain C. Fellowes, who is Captain Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard, and Viscount Sydney. The Prince and Princess of Wales occupied the back seat of the first carriage; facing them sat the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Edinburgh. The Duke and Duchess of Teck were in the next carriage; and in the succeeding vehicles were the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Suffield, Colonel A. Ellis, General Sir W. Knollys, and Lord C. Beresford (attending upon the Prince of Wales), Lady Suffield and Mrs. Stonor (attending the Princess of Wales), Colonel Collette and Captain Haigh (attending the Duke of Edinburgh), and Captain St. John Mildmay (attending the Duke of Cambridge). The Royal party passed slowly through the town, amid great cheering from the crowds assembled along the route. At two places a number of school children were on stands, and sang national airs as the Royal party passed.

Their Royal Highnesses took their places in the gallery prepared for them at



HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN, THE DANISH ROMANCE-WRITER.





THE NEW TOWNHALL, TODMORDEN.



UNVEILING THE FIELDEN STATUE AT TODMORDEN.



twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock, the two bands in the ship playing alternately "God Save the Queen" and the Danish National Anthem. When the party had taken their seats the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of Rochester, performed the service set apart for the launching of ships in her Majesty's Navy. It consisted of the 107th Psalm, a special prayer, appropriate to the occasion, and other prayers. This short ceremony being over, the preparations for launching were rapidly completed. Men had been busily engaged during the morning in removing as many as possible of the blocks beneath the keel, in greasing the slides, and preparing in every way to facilitate the launching of the vessel when the "dog shores" should be knocked away. The galleries opposite the bow end of the vessel presented at this time a brilliant spectacle. The Princess of Wales sat at a small table, on which was a pretty toy, as it seemed, of ivory and gold, being the handle of a lever, which, by dropping the shores, would at once set the vessel at liberty. Near the Princess were the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, the former wearing the uniform of a Master of Trinity House, the latter that of post-captain. On the right stood the Duke of Cambridge, in a field-marshal's uniform, and near him the Duke of Teck, who wore the dress of a regiment of Surrey Rifle Volunteers. A little behind were the attendants in their scarlet uniforms, and close at hand the Persian, American, and Russian Ambassadors. Among the members of the Houses of Lords and Commons were Lord Wimmerleigh, Mr. Ward Hunt, Sir Massey Lopes, Mr. Childers, Mr. Praed, Mr. Samuda, Mr. T. Brassey, Mr. Adam, Sir John Hay, and Major Waterhouse.

The arrangements being completed, the lever was moved by the Princess of Wales, the dog shores released, and the bottle of champagne dashed against the bows of the vessel. There was a slight movement, but the vessel did not go steadily down the slips until a minute afterwards, when the power of a hydraulic ram was used, and then, amid loud cheering, she gradually slid into the water, turned gently round towards Rochester Bridge, and was soon brought up in deep water. After a short interval the Royal party left the gallery, and proceeded to the Captain-Superintendent's house to luncheon. The troops left the streets during the interval, but at the end of an hour took up their old positions. The carriages to convey the Prince of Wales and his companions back reached the railway-station at three o'clock, and it was a quarter past the hour when the train started. At Victoria, which it reached at ten minutes past four, a crowd was in waiting, and the Prince and Princess of Wales were heartily cheered as they drove off to Marlborough House.

Our Extra Supplement for this week is the large engraving which represents the Princess of Wales in the act of pressing the handle of the lever to cut the rope arranged so as to let the great ship go down the slide.

#### HANS ANDERSEN.

The Copenhagen or home friends of this delightful Danish storyteller, who has at least a million other friends, young and old, in every part of Europe and the English parts of America, gave him some birthday presents and compliments on the 2nd inst., when he completed the seventieth year of his age. The King and Queen of Denmark, the Crown Prince and Princess Thyra, with others of that Royal family, including our Princess of Wales, joined in sending or bringing tokens of regard to the pure-hearted man of genius, "in wit a man, simplicity a child," who has contributed so greatly to the revival of his country's literary renown at the present day. Hans Christian Andersen was born in 1805, the son of a poor working shoemaker, at Odensee, the chief town of the island of Funen. He learnt only his letters up to the age of nine, at the charity school in that town; but the widow of a clergyman took him into her house, during the next three years, to read to her children. He was then put to work in a factory, to earn a few shillings weekly in aid of his widowed mother. But he borrowed plays and novels to read in his leisure hours, and the youth, as he grew up, wanted to go on the stage. Theatrical managers would not engage so queer a face and figure, and he lost his rather fine voice. His professed handicraft was that of a joiner, but he was probably an indifferent workman, and sometimes went near to starve. This did not at all prevent his writing sublime tragedies, which were offered to the managers, publishers, and patrons of literature. One of the last-mentioned class, Court-Councillor Collin, at length took notice of the struggling genius, and got him admittance to a Government college. There he studied, and soon wrote poetry and prose romances of considerable merit. "The Improvisatore," a tale of Roman and Neapolitan life, was composed during, or soon after, his first visit to Italy. He has travelled frequently since that time, and his sojourn in England is pleasantly remembered here. The narratives of "Only a Fiddler" and "The Story of My Life" describe his own early struggles. His original "Tales for Children" are perhaps even more popular than those collected by the Brothers Grimm. There are, too, several works in which Andersen has depicted the rustic and household life of Jutland, and other provincial aspects of his native country. In 1867 a great public festival took place at Odensee in honour of this clever and kindly Danish author.

The portrait is from a photograph by Messrs. Hansen, Schou, and Weller, of Copenhagen.

#### TODMORDEN TOWNHALL AND FIELDEN STATUE.

The handsome new Townhall at Todmorden, which is the munificent gift of three brothers—Messrs. Samuel and John Fielden, and Mr. Joshua Fielden, M.P.—to their native town, was opened on Saturday, the 3rd inst., when Foley's bronze statue of their honoured father, the late Mr. John Fielden, M.P., was also unveiled.

Todmorden, in the hill country of Blackstone Edge, on the Calder, the border stream between Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, a few miles east of Rochdale, is a busy manufacturing town of 15,000 inhabitants. Its new Townhall stands near the County Bridge in York-street, and has frontages also to North-street and Bridge-street. The building is in the form of a parallelogram terminating towards the bridge by a bold semicircular end, in which are the main entrances to the grand staircase and the large hall. The style of architecture is Grecian, elaborately treated. The walls are faced with Ringby stone. The upper story is divided into bays by three-quarter columns; those at the circular end are cabled columns, with richly-carved capitals, and stand clear of the building. At the angles are massive pilasters; the columns are surmounted by an entablature and cornice, with carved frieze in which the Tudor rose is introduced, emblematic of the two counties in which the building stands. The pediment above is filled with a group of sculpture, representing in union the chief manufactures and agriculture of the two counties. On a pedestal in the centre are two "embraced" female figures; that to the left represent-

ing Lancashire and the other Yorkshire. To the right of the latter is a figure of Vulcan in the act of welding a crank; the next figures are a couple of female reapers—one is engaged in binding a sheaf and the other in cutting; and at the end is a shepherd, in a reclining position, having his crook and pipe, with a sheep. These are emblematic of the iron and worsted trades and the agriculture of the county of York. On the other hand are emblems of the staple trade of Lancashire. There are two females with a "cut" of calico at their feet—one or them bears a cop basket, and the other has a creel of full bobbins which she has apparently just exchanged for an empty one; to the left of these is a man turning over a bale of finished goods, whilst a clerk, sitting at a desk, is in the act of "taking" the number and shipping mark. The hall has a frontage of 53 ft. each to the County Bridge and Oddfellows' Bridge, and to North-street and Bridge-street of 130 ft. The height of the building to the top of the cornice is 54 ft., and to the top of the pediment 67 ft. The architect is Mr. John Gibson, F.S.B.A., of Westminster; the contract has been executed by Messrs. R. Neill and Sons, of Strangeways, Manchester.

The statue, as before stated, is of bronze, and stands in front of a portico on the North-street side of the Townhall. The pedestal is of granite, and rises to a height of about 6 ft. In front is the following inscription:—"John Fielden, M.P. This statue was raised by public subscription in gratitude to him whose persevering efforts succeeded in obtaining the Ten-Hours Bill. Royal Assent, June 8, 1847. Born Jan. 17, 1784. Died May 29, 1849." The statue represents Mr. Fielden in a standing posture, the thumb of his right hand inserted in the sleeve of his waistcoat, and in his left hand he holds a scroll of paper, which rests upon a pedestal. The figure is of little more than life-size.

The appointed Saturday was observed as a holiday in the district. The streets, gaily decorated, were traversed by processions of Odd Fellows, Druids, Foresters, and Shepherds, wearing the quaint costumes of their orders. These contingents, some of whom came from Stockport, Bradford, Leeds, and Halifax, walked first to Dobroyd Castle, the residence of Mr. John Fielden; thence through the town to Centre Vale, the residence of Mr. Samuel Fielden, and afterwards to receive Lord John Manners, who, as one of the supporters of the Ten-Hours Bill, had been invited to unveil the statue of his friend. He was the guest of Mr. Joshua Fielden, M.P., at Stansfield Hall. Unfortunately, after the procession had started rain began to fall; but it marched on to a large open space in front of the hall.

The proceedings were opened with the presentation of an address by the Fielden Memorial Committee to Lord John Manners, requesting him to unveil the statue, and Mr. Horst, Secretary of the Statue Committee, then handed a deed of conveyance of the statue to Mr. John Fielden, on whose land it was erected. Mr. Fielden, in acknowledging the gift, expressed his regret at the absence of his elder brother, Mr. Samuel Fielden, and read a deed of conveyance of the Townhall to a body of trustees for the benefit of the town. The conveyance declared that the trust should be administered without reference to party or creed, and the trustees were authorised to apply any surplus proceeds that may arise to any object they may think fit, if it were not sectarian. Mr. Newall, Mr. W. B. Ferrand, Sir Henry Edwards, Mr. Fyson, of Barnsley, and Mr. Joshua Fielden, M.P., afterwards addressed the meeting. A vote of thanks to Lord John Manners concluded the proceedings. The Messrs. Fielden entertained a party of 360 guests in the assembly-room at the new Townhall.

#### MARSHAL MACMAHON AND THE GOLDEN FLEECE.

The President of the French Republic, Marshal MacMahon, Duke of Magenta, was invested with the Spanish Order of the Golden Fleece on the 1st inst., as mentioned by our Paris correspondent in his letter of that week. The ceremony was performed at the Palace of the Elysée. The Spanish Ambassador, Marquis de Molins, arrived at the Palace in a state carriage. He wore the dress and the large white cloak with a red cross of the Order of Calatrava, and round his neck was the collar of the Golden Fleece. The Vicomte de Veja and Señor Freuiller, the two Secretaries of Embassy, followed in another carriage. As they entered the courtyard the 135th Line Regiment, drawn up as a guard of honour, presented arms. In the Salon du Hémicycle were assembled the Chapter of Knights, of the Duc de Noailles, the Marshal's "godfather;" the Duc de Nemours, the Duc d'Aumale, the Prince de Joinville, and the Duc d'Ossuna. The Marshal was accompanied by his wife, the Duchess of Magenta, and others of his family, the Duc Decazes, the Comte de Chaudordy, and General Vinoy, Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour. In reply to the usual questions, the Marshal said that he accepted the order which the King of Spain wished to confer on him, whereupon the Marquis de Molins invested him with the collar. The Marshal then took the oaths, and paid the necessary fees to the Vicomte de Veja, for even the President is not exempt from them. When the ceremony was over, the Spanish Ambassador left the Elysée with the same state as before. M. Thiers, who was invited to be present as a knight of the order, sent word to Marshal MacMahon that he would come if his presence was necessary to complete the chapter. As it happened, there was no necessity for it; but the Marshal is said to have been much gratified by this act of courtesy on the part of his predecessor as President.

#### "THE WIDOWER."

The picture by a German artist, which is copied in our Engraving, would simply but expressively tell its own tale, though it bore no title. Here is a bereaved husband, in the first hour of his affectionate grief, weeping for the loss of his cherished life's partner, and refusing to look up from the mental depth of dark despair into which his soul is painfully gazing. To him comes the old nurse or grandmother, bringing a new-born child whose existence has been dearly purchased by the mother's death in the pangs of her maternity, yet it is in this unconscious babe, we may hope and trust, that he will hereafter possess an inestimable heart-treasure, almost consoling him for that early separation from the wife of his youth. The grandmother's face looks so tenderly, gravely, firmly kind, and shows, as we take it, such a capacity of womanly care for the household welfare of the man and the infant, that their home will again become an abode of healthful peace. There is a good lesson of devout and patient resignation to be learned from this picture, which may, however, be left to the consideration of every reader so disposed.

The freehold residential property known as the Pennoyre Estate, near Brecon, comprising mansion and 489 acres, has been sold to Baron Cleasby, for £34,500, by Messrs. Driver.

#### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

##### FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, April 15.

The recent bellicose language of the Berlin newspapers on the military preparations of France, and the diplomatic notes which have passed between Germany and Belgium respecting the attitude of the clerical press of the latter country in presence of the dispute between Germany and the Papal See, have furnished ample subjects for discussion during the past week. A certain uneasy feeling has been caused by these combined threats from Berlin; for France fears the intention may be to force a quarrel upon her before she has repaired the disasters of the late war, and thus take her at a terrible disadvantage. No doubt every Frenchman looks forward to a renewal of the recent struggle, and for this reason bears his heavy burden of extra taxation without complaint. Still, the entire nation is aware that France will only be ready to cope with Germany some years hence, and even then scarcely single-handed.

The assumed augmentation of the French infantry, which seems to have inspired the bellicose article in the Berlin *Post* headed "Is War in Prospect?" is purely imaginary, having arisen from a rearrangement of the companies on active service, which really effects a decrease. Instead of eighteen companies in three groups of six, there are to be sixteen combined into four groups of four. The reduction, it is true, will be only temporary, still for the moment it is real. The war materiel, moreover, is being reconstituted very slowly, as is evident from the moderate amount demanded by the War Minister for munitions. It is quite certain that not a single five or seven pounder of the new armament for the artillery has yet been served out; neither is the new rifle determined on ready for the troops. The new fortresses which the National Assembly decided should be commenced will take at least another five years to construct; and, so far as is generally known, no line of defence has yet been determined on between the Vosges and Paris. With regard to the Belgian affair, this is only interesting to France as indicating the increasing aggressive policy of the new German Empire. Public opinion in Paris has calmed down considerably since the departure of the Duc Decazes for the Gironde, where it is announced he will remain for a fortnight, as this offers the best assurance of these various quieting rumours having nothing particularly serious in them.

The Republic is becoming steadily consolidated. General Cisse has issued a circular to the army which completely satisfies the partisans of the newly-constituted order of things; and, in fact, the only member of the Government whose conduct is regarded with suspicion is M. Buffet, Vice-President of the Council. A report prevailed to the effect that he had at length addressed a confidential circular to the prefects; but this has been semi-officially contradicted, and the announcement made that he had merely received some few of the prefects and given them verbal instructions with regard to the policy the Ministry proposed to pursue. M. Buffet evidently accepts the Republic more in theory than in fact; and it is easy to foresee that he is not likely to maintain his present position long after a dissolution has been once determined on.

There have been some partial elections for the Council General of the Seine, resulting in the return either of the advanced Republican candidates or else of Conservatives disposed to accept the Wallon constitution; and various elections in the provinces show, as usual, that a majority of Republicans have been returned.

At a concert given the other evening at the Elysée the ex-Queen of Spain was present, surrounded by various members of the Orleans family. She was received by the Marshal on her arrival, and held a brief private conference with him before being conducted to the drawing-room.

The approaching opening of the Paris Salon has been preceded by some little stir in the artistic world, culminating in the resignation of the director of the Beaux Arts, which, however, the Minister presiding over this department refused to accept. It seems that a large number of Paris artists, considering that the State does not do enough in decorating them at twenty-five years of age for some clever little pictures, whilst it leaves literary men to get along as they best can, have been agitating for taking the organisation of the Paris annual exhibition into their own hands, and decorating each other, much after the fashion of our own Royal Academy. The director of the Beaux Arts over here is, for some reason or other, the reverse of popular among the artistic body generally. It is the custom at the close of the Paris Salon to confer a certain number of medals on the artists exhibiting, and the director has thought proper to add to these one of his own creation, the recipient of which is to be entitled to a pension for the purpose of enabling him to pursue his studies in Italy. Last year the jury of artists, considering that this would give rise to an objectionable competition among the instructors of the pupils at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, put their veto upon the proposition. To guard against a recurrence of this proceeding, the director determined that this year, instead of merely the customary fifteen jurors being chosen by the artistic body generally—who he felt certain would re-elect the same individuals composing the jury of last year—as many as forty-five persons should be selected, and that from these fifteen should be chosen by lot. The result is that, instead of the jury being composed, as heretofore, of artists representing all the various branches of the profession, not a single landscape-painter is a member of it; and hence increased irritation on the part of artists generally, and the *paysagistes* in particular.

When the exhibition of fine arts closes there is a talk of holding in the Palais des Champs Elysées an exhibition of everything relative to bibliography, extending as far back as the ancient papyri and including illuminated mediæval MSS., rare early and unique modern printed books, and examples of book-illustrations in all the various processes applicable to this purpose, together with unique specimens of ancient and modern binding, &c.

The Academy has elected General Sir Edward Sabine, R.A., as corresponding member in its section of Geography and Navigation, in the place of M. Chazallon, deceased.

A commission has decided that the street sewage of Paris, which is now discharged into the Seine nearly opposite Asnières, and is said to poison the stream for several miles, shall henceforth be applied to the fertilisation of the vast plain of Jeunevilliers, whence Paris derives much of its fruit and vegetable supply. It is estimated that the produce from the land will be immensely increased; still, the owners of "maisons de champagne" on the outskirts of the plain are by no means pleased at the glowing prospect presented to them, which, however advantageous it may be from a bucolic, is scarcely likely to prove equally beneficial from a sanitary point of view.

##### ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies reassembled on Monday, after the Easter recess, but adjourned until Wednesday on account of there not being a quorum.

A Royal decree has been published conferring a gold medal upon Mr. Kelly, police sergeant at Capetown, for an act of bravery in aid of an Italian vessel in distress.



Many persons had audience of the Pope on Monday, to congratulate him on the anniversary of his return from Gaeta, and of his escape from an accident twenty years ago. The Pope has received "with visible satisfaction" an address from Roman Catholics of all nationalities, expressing their sentiments on the religious, political, and social questions now agitating Europe.

Garibaldi yesterday week signed a formal request to the Government to be allowed to construct a port at Fiumicino, in accordance with Mr. Wilkinson's plans.

#### BELGIUM.

The Countess of Flanders gave birth to a son on the 8th inst. He has been named Albert Leopold Clément Marie Mainrad. The Princess of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen arrived in Brussels on the 9th on a visit to her daughter the Countess.

The first sitting of the Chambers after the Easter recess took place on Tuesday afternoon. M. Dumortier asked the Government for explanations relative to the German note and the reply of the Belgian Government. The Foreign Minister, in answer, said that the importance of the matter had been exaggerated by rumours in the newspapers. He promised to give fuller explanations on Friday. Replying to another member, the Minister said that not one word of the German note could be construed as a demand for the modification of the Belgian Constitution.

#### GERMANY.

The German Emperor is about to proceed to Wiesbaden, to remain there until the Czar's intended visit to Berlin early in May. Later in the month the King of Sweden is expected in Berlin. The Crown Prince and Princess have left for Italy. The younger children of their Imperial Highnesses are at St. Leonards-on-Sea, where they are to stay some weeks.

Steps have been taken by the German Imperial Chancellery to ascertain whether the maritime Powers are disposed to agree to an international maritime code; and, in the event of favourable answers, the matter will be pursued further.

A bill has been presented to the Lower House of the Prussian Diet for abrogating clauses 15, 16, and 18 of the Constitution. The first-named clause relates to the independent administration of ecclesiastical affairs, and clause 16 to the unimpeded intercourse between religious associations and their superiors; clause 18 abolished the system by which appointments to clerical offices required the confirmation of the Government.

Prince Bismarck spoke last Wednesday, in the Upper House, on the bill for withdrawing State grants from the Roman Catholic bishoprics and clergy. He denied being an enemy of the Church of Rome, but contended that the Pope had assumed to be the Church, and the bishops were only his prefects.

The Upper Chamber of the Bavarian Diet has adopted the bill for the purchase of the Eastern Railway by the State. The Chamber of Deputies held its last sitting this session on Wednesday. The President, Herr von Stauffenberg, brought the proceedings to a close by asking for cheers for King Louis, adding a hope that under his sceptre Bavaria might flourish as a strong member of the empire.

A Berlin telegram to the *Morning Post* says that the Gustav affair has been finally settled between Germany and Spain.

Germany has obtained satisfaction and part of an indemnity from those Chinese villages which plundered a German ship named the Prince Bismarck.

#### AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

On his arrival at Zara, in Dalmatia, last Saturday, the Emperor Francis Joseph held several receptions and received addresses. His Majesty afterwards visited the public institutions of the place, and was received with great cordiality by the people. Upon leaving Zara, on Monday, the Emperor was enthusiastically cheered by the assembled crowds.

A telegram from Vienna announces that a contract for the purchase of 10,000 horses for France has been concluded in Bohemia, and that the animals are to be delivered in June.

#### RUSSIA.

It is intimated from St. Petersburg that the Czar will probably leave his capital for Germany on May 8. His Majesty proposes making three days' stay at Berlin, and then proceeding to Ems in order to take the waters. His return to St. Petersburg is likely to take place about the end of June.

#### SWEDEN.

Both Chambers of the Riksdag have adopted a proposal, introduced by M. Wallenberg, for reorganising the Council of State and creating the post of a President of the Council. As this resolution involves a change of the Constitution, it will have again to be brought forward in the next session of the Riksdag for final adoption.

#### CANADA.

The Dominion Parliament was prorogued on the 8th inst. All the political measures proposed by the Government were passed by large majorities.

#### AUSTRALIA.

The revenue for Victoria for the quarter ending the 31st ult. amounts to £999,286. The returns for the nine months expired of the financial year show a decrease of £212,000 as compared with the estimates.

A Sydney telegram reports a great influx of Chinese into Northern Queensland, and states that more are expected.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

Sir G. A. Arney, Chief Justice of New Zealand, and Judges Orison and Chapman have retired. Mr. Prendergast succeeds Sir G. A. Arney in the Chief Justiceship.

The Emperor of Brazil has subscribed 1000*l.* towards a statue to be erected to the memory of Elie de Beaumont.

Mr. Wade, the British Minister at Pekin, arrived at Shanghai last Saturday.

The Greek Chamber was closed, yesterday week, by a Royal ordinance.

The cable between Shanghai and Hong-Kong is repaired, restoring communication to Shanghai and Japan, via Suez.

A telegram from Madeira reports that Sir Garnet Wolseley and his staff arrived at Capetown early on March 20.

Dr. Shuster and the expedition to observe the eclipse of the sun met with a splendid reception at Bangkok.

The appointment of director of the Japanese Naval College has been offered by the Government of Japan to Commander Charles Jones, R.N., who has accepted the post.

A despatch from Gibraltar says that Sir John Drummond Hay and his suite left Tangier on March 30, on a mission to the Court at Fez, to present his credentials to the young Sultan Muley Hassan.

Several railway projects are in progress on the Continent. The route for the new Servian line is being surveyed, and the Porte has sanctioned the union between the railways of Servia and Austria. The Austrian and Italian Governments have also agreed to the junction of the lines between their respective countries at Ponteba.

According to a Reuter's telegram from Shanghai, dated April 13, we learn that Vice-Admiral Ryder, commander of the China squadron, arrived there on Monday, in his flagship, the Audacious.

The Chinese Government has reluctantly consented that the circumstances of Mr. Margary's murder shall be investigated by two foreign officers, acting in co-operation with an Imperial officer.

Notice appeared in Tuesday's *Gazette* of the appointment of the English members of the joint commission with France on the scheme of a submarine tunnel under the Channel. The commissioners are Mr. C. M. Kennedy, Captain Tyler, R.E., and Mr. Horace Watson.

A Reuter's telegram from Singapore states that valuable results were obtained by the English observers of the solar eclipse in Siam. Although the sky was hazy, the results by the prismatic camera were good. The spectroscopic cameras failed. Eight good photographs of the corona were taken.

The Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaievitch, Inspector-General of Russian Cavalry, has determined, with the sanction of the Emperor of Russia, to offer for the three best essays on the subject of the history of cavalry three prizes of 5000, 3000, and 2000 roubles respectively. In order to encourage international scientific intercourse, he has decided to throw the competition open to all armies, but foreign competitors will have to get their productions translated into Russian. All competing essays must be handed in at St. Petersburg on or before Jan. 1 (13), 1877, when they will be carefully examined by a committee nominated by his Highness and the prizes adjudged.

Mr. Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, who has come home in the Tagus, gives, in the *Times*, some particulars of a boiling lake in the Island of Dominica:—"A discovery of some interest has been made in the Island of Dominica. Drs. Freeland and Nicholls, Captain Gardiner, and Mr. Watt, exploring the steep and forest-covered mountain behind the town of Roseau, came upon a boiling lake about 2500ft. above the sea level, and two miles in circumference. When the wind cleared away for a moment the clouds of sulphurous steam with which the lake was covered, a mound of water was seen 10ft. higher than the general level, and caused by violent ebullition. The margin of the lake consisted of beds of sulphur, and its overflowing found exit by a waterfall of great height."

#### BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

The fifty-seventh anniversary of the Jews' Free School, Bell-lane, Spitalfields, was celebrated on Thursday week by a dinner at the London Tavern, under the presidency of Mr. N. M. de Rothschild, M.P. Donations were announced to the amount of upwards of £2270.

The fifty-fourth anniversary of the General Pension Society, the object of which is to give permanent relief, without distinction of religion, sect, or country, to decayed artisans and tradesmen of good character and over sixty years of age, or their widows, was celebrated on Thursday week, at the Terminus Hotel, Alderman and Sheriff Ellis presiding. The subscriptions amounted to £470.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presided over an influential meeting at the Mansion House, on Thursday week, in support of Miss Leigh's Mission Home for English Women in Paris. Towards the close of the meeting £500 was subscribed in the room towards the sum of £3000 still required to cover the cost of the new building and site in the Ternes district.

The Duke of Cambridge, on Monday, received a deputation from the Society of Arts, who asked his Royal Highness to aid in furthering the adoption of military drill in schools. The Commander-in-Chief expressed his sympathy with the object of those who explained their views to him, but pointed out the difficulty of sparing men for the instruction of lads in schools. He, however, promised to speak to the Secretary for War on the subject, as a matter of finance was involved.

The twenty-seventh anniversary festival of the friends of the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest was held, on Tuesday evening, at the London Tavern—the Lord Mayor presiding. Mr. S. Olding, the treasurer, announced a list of subscriptions he had received, which, together with that of Mr. Ross and other gentlemen, amounted in the aggregate to £2650.

Under the presidency of the Duke of Cambridge, the annual dinner in connection with King's College Hospital was held on Wednesday, when nearly £1900 was subscribed.

Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., presided on Wednesday at the sixth-sixth annual banquet of the Artists' Benevolent Fund, when more than 120 guests were present. The subscriptions received amounted to £600, including £100 from her Majesty.

The select experts in gymnastic exercises belonging to the German Turn-Verein of London exhibited a series of performances, on Wednesday evening, at the Turn-Halle, in Pancras-road, King's-cross, for the joint benefit of the German Hospital at Dalston and of University College Hospital. The programme included the routine of drill en masse, the wielding of light and heavy clubs, a variety of feats in surmounting the horizontal bar and the vaulting-horse, the progressive high jumps off an ascending spring-board, the vaulting and swinging upon parallel bars, and some excellent boxing. The whole concluded with the mazy circular dance of more than a hundred men. There was an interlude of tossing a man in a spacious cloth, into which he had boldly leapt from the lofty gallery. Among the spectators were the Marquis of Lorne and the Japanese Ambassador; but the benches were not so well filled as they ought to have been, with such a deserving cause of charity, supported by such an interesting performance. Messrs. A. Stempel, Cudby, Lemaire, and other masters of these athletic arts conducted with their usual judgment and zeal the exercises put respectively under their charges.

Messrs. T. Cook and Sons, the world-famed contractors and caterers for tourists' pleasure excursions to every country worth visiting in the world, have published a "Guide to Ancient and Modern Rome." It has been compiled by Mr. Shakspeare Wood, the sculptor, a constant resident in that renowned city during the last quarter of a century, and of late years a frequent lecturer to English audiences upon its topographical antiquities. He is evidently well qualified, by literary and historical scholarship, and by his intimate acquaintance with art, as well as by his local knowledge and personal experience, to discharge the office of editorial cicerone; and he has succeeded in the treatment here of a great mass of diverse information, so clearly and compactly arranged as to form a most convenient book, either for perusal, or for reference upon occasion. A map of Rome is inserted as the frontispiece; and we have only to suggest that the volume should be issued, not merely in its present external form, but also with a light and flexible leather binding, so as to be carried more easily in the pocket of a traveller's overcoat, or to be rolled in one hand.

#### METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Lord Kimberley replied for the House of Lords and Lord Hartington for the House of Commons at a banquet given on Wednesday, by the Fishmongers' Company, to a large number of distinguished guests.

Sir J. G. Shaw Lefevre, late Clerk of the Parliaments, has received a retiring pension of £2500 per annum, being equivalent to the full salary of which he had been in the enjoyment for so many years.

Saturday was the opening day of the London Schools' Swimming Club, and a number of prizes were competed for at the Lambeth Baths, in the presence of many spectators, including Sir C. Reed and Mr. Macgregor.

Invitations have been issued for a reception and ball at the Mansion House on Wednesday evening, May 5. The receptions of the Lady Mayoress will recommence on Tuesday next, and be continued every following Tuesday from three to five.

The Postmaster-General wishes it to be known that he cannot at present entertain any more applications for female clerkships in the Savings Bank Department, many more candidates having already written to him than can be nominated.

Having viewed the third alternative site offered for the purposes of the proposed hospital at Hampstead, the Metropolitan Asylums Board met, last Saturday, to decide upon the course which should be adopted. A motion for referring the question to the general purposes committee was discussed at some length, and ultimately lost.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 92,498, of whom 35,553 were in workhouses, and 56,945 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding week in the year 1874, these figures show a decrease of 12,389. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 403, of whom 275 were men, 107 women, and 21 children under sixteen.

The Secretary of the Post Office, in the absence of the Postmaster-General, received, yesterday week, a deputation from the Associated Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the inaccuracies in telegrams received from abroad by mercantile houses in this country, and the delay in the delivery of letters from the south of England to the northern towns. Mr. Tilley said that the views of the deputation were well worthy of consideration, and suggested plans by which the inconvenience complained of in certain quarters might be remedied.

The streets committee of the City Commissioners of Sewers reported in favour of repaving so much of the carriage-way on the southern side of St. Paul's-churchyard as needed relaying with the present stone as far as practicable, the deficiency to be made good with old dressed stone. In consequence of a memorial by the merchants and others occupying premises on that side of the cathedral, the report was sent back to them for reconsideration, the object being to have the whole laid with wood if possible.

A new Board School was opened on Monday evening in Albany-row, Camberwell. Sir C. Reed, Chairman of the School Board for London, presided, and entered into a vindication of the course taken by that body which has led to charges of reckless expenditure being brought against it.—At the weekly meeting of the London School Board, on Wednesday, a report of the finance committee recommending the borrowing of a further sum of £144,000, making in all £1,349,145, was agreed to after some discussion, in the course of which several members of the board justified its expenditure.

The Roman Catholic University College at Kensington was opened, yesterday week, by a religious service, at which most of the English Roman Catholic hierarchy were present. Cardinal Manning presided, and Monsignor Capel, the Rector of the new institution, delivered an address. After the ceremonial the congregation, which included the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquis of Ripon, and other noblemen, inspected the buildings. In the course of the proceedings Cardinal Manning was presented with an address of congratulation from the Rector, professors, and tutors of the college.

Dr. Frankland reports that the water drawn from the Thames during March and supplied by the metropolitan companies was "in a very impure condition;" that delivered by the Chelsea, Southwark, Grand Junction, and Lambeth companies was "slightly turbid and contained moving organisms." The West Middlesex was the only company that supplied efficiently filtered Thames water at the time the samples were drawn. The Lea water furnished by the New River and East London Companies was of improved quality, and was efficiently filtered. The Kent Company's water, derived from deep wells in the chalk, was of the usual excellent quality.

The new hall which has been erected in the east end of London for the services of Messrs. Moody and Sankey was opened for religious worship on Thursday week. The noonday prayer meeting which is held daily in connection with their meetings was held on Monday at Her Majesty's Opera House, Haymarket, which has been taken by the committee for a month.—At the annual celebration of the opening of the Pastors' College connected with the Metropolitan Tabernacle, on Wednesday, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon and Mr. S. Morley, M.P., delivered addresses, in the course of which both speakers highly praised the work of Messrs. Moody and Sankey.

There were 2367 births registered in London last week, which was 97 below the average. The number of deaths was 1759, being an excess of 142 over the average. Of the total number of deaths recorded, 3 were from smallpox, 19 from measles, 24 from scarlet fever, 10 from diphtheria, 95 from whooping-cough, 28 from different forms of fever, and 24 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 203 deaths were referred, against 152 and 219 in the two preceding weeks. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which in the three preceding weeks had been 498, 508, and 534, declined again last week to 496, but exceeded the corrected average weekly number by 129; 292 resulted from bronchitis and 145 from pneumonia. Five deaths were caused by street accidents.

On Wednesday evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the magistrates of the county of Surrey and other guests at dinner in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House. The Chief Magistrate himself is a leading member of the Surrey magisterial bench. Among the principal guests were Mr. Leveson Gower (High Sheriff), Viscount Middleton, Sir R. Baggallay, M.P., Lord Foley, General Sir George P. Lawrence, Rear-Admiral Egerton, M.P., Vice-Admiral Stopford, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Ellis, Mr. Sheriff Shaw, Sir E. Antrobus, M.P., Sir T. Lawrence, Mr. Leycester Penrhyn (Chairman of Quarter Sessions), Mr. Hardman, Mr. Ingram, M.P., Mr. Bennington, M.P., Mr. J. F. Harrison, M.P., the Mayors of Kingston-on-Thames, Guildford, and Godalming, Sir W. Rose, the Hon. F. Scott, Mr. Palmer, Q.C., Sir H. Peek, M.P., Sir R. W. Farquhar, Sir H. W. Parker, Mr. Lee Steere, M.P., and Mr. George Cubitt, M.P. Lord Middleton replied for the House of Lords, and the Attorney-General returned thanks for the House of Commons.





INVESTITURE OF MARSHAL MACMAHON WITH THE SPANISH ORDER OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE.





"THE WIDOWER," BY O. GÜNTHER.



## SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

In the abstract, it is generally understood that a breach of the privileges of the House of Commons, like "a lion among ladies, is a fearful thing;" but that august assembly is fast establishing that its fearfulness is a delusion. Of late several cases of breach of privilege have been brought forward, and they have all come to a lame and impotent conclusion. One of them occurred some weeks ago, and for its origination Mr. C. E. Lewis, the Conservative member for Londonderry, despite his not being an Irishman, was responsible, and its result was not such, it might have been thought, as to have encouraged him to initiate another proceeding of that description. But he adventured a second time, and certainly contrived, in the first place, to produce considerable excitement, and ultimately to place the House, or rather to give it the opportunity of placing itself, in a ludicrous position. It seems that a letter containing strong animadversions, probably approaching to a libel, on a member of the House, was informally read before the Committee on Loans to Foreign States, and subsequently appeared at length in two of the daily journals. This fired Mr. Lewis, who brought forward a motion for breach of privilege, in that reports of the proceedings of the Committee had been published. Every one knows that, technically and abstractedly, it is a breach of privilege to publish reports of any of the proceedings of the House; but appeal might as well be made to the laws of Oberon, or any other obsolete laws, as to this rule, which in practice is a dead letter. One other dilettante member absolutely inquired if accommodation had not been provided by the Committee for the chroniclers, as if he and every one else did not know that, for time out of mind, such accommodation has been provided in every Committee that is open to the public, just in the same way as a gallery is provided for the fourth estate in the House, so that the debates may be given to the world. Possibly the House was at first conscious of the manifest dilemma into which it was likely to get itself, for Mr. Lewis's proposal to vote the proceeding a breach of privilege was very coldly received, and at one time it seemed as if he would not have a seconder; and when one appeared in the person of an Irish member, who, without meaning to be offensive, might be called obscure, some laughter was heard. There was a long pause when the question was put before any cry of division arose; and at length a few "ayes" and fewer "noes" were feebly uttered, and the motion asserting a breach of privilege was faintly assented to, no one having condescended to utter a word about it except its proposer.

Then came from Mr. Lewis a motion to call the printers of the journals which had now been declared peccant to the bar. Doubtless most people present were struck with the absurdity, the bootlessness, of such a proceeding, and the same hesitation which had previously prevailed was apparent in the whole assembly. It was now time for Mr. Disraeli to intervene, and with his usual adroitness (while admitting, in the interests of the House, the quasi enormity of the offence) he suggested that—as information as to who was the culprit that sent the letter to the newspapers was all that was required—it might be well to obtain that information by other means, and not to go through the mere form of calling the innocent, and for this purpose ignorant, printers to the bar. It had now begun to be obvious that the object was to fix on Mr. Lowe, the Chairman of the Committee, the guilt of sending the letter to the journals, and as he had in the outset declared that, as chairman, it was incompetent for him to say a word before the proceedings of the Committee were closed, the desire to draw him out was stimulated. In that desire it is easy to believe that Mr. Disraeli largely shared. Controversy got hot, and the House divided into parties, the Ministerialists and the Opposition contending over Mr. Lowe, after the manner of the Greeks and Trojans over the body of Patroclus. It must be admitted that, for once, Mr. Disraeli lost his temper; and, changing his opinion, he declared, in effect, that, as Mr. Lowe remained obstinately mute, he would support that which he had insinuated was the absurd motion to call the printers to the bar. In fact, the Government now led its supporters to a party division, and by a majority pledged itself to a proceeding which was likely to prove that the House was asserting a power which it could not enforce without inflicting pains and penalties unjustly upon practically unoffending persons.

When chronicling one instance of the irritability which the House sometimes exhibits, it may not be out of place to speak of another, which had for its result a slight and indefinite defeat of the Government. Last year a bill for the preservation of ancient monuments all through the country was opposed because it was thought that it would inaugurate an invasion of the rights of property, by allowing an irresponsible commission to come and take away part of any man's land on which an historical relic was mouldering away, or being carted away in order that dykes and stone walls might be constructed out of its materials, and there was a good deal of high talk about daylight and outdoor burglary, and so on. The measure came on for second reading on Wednesday, and was debated with great spirit for some hours. Notably, two young members distinguished themselves while urging the rejection of the bill—to wit, Sir Charles Legard, who had got up a capital speech, in which he had intermixed humour and semipathos in due proportion. Unfortunately, however, it happened that the humour did not take, while the pathos was found to be exceedingly amusing. In the other case, that of Lord Francis Hervey, humour which did produce laughter predominated in his address; and as it was his cue to "chaff" away all sentiment in connection with the subject, he terribly outraged the mediæval sensibilities of Mr. Beresford-Hope, who "raved and recited" in his most exalted style. The opposition was based on the alleged invasion of the rights of property, and so it found some opponents on the Liberal side, who are landed proprietors, and consequently not Radical, at least in one respect, while in the ranks of the Ministerialists there were found several antiquarian devotees who were willing to suffer an infringement on the law of trespass for the sake of conserving antique specimens of the creative genius of our remotest ancestors. None of the Cabinet was present, but by the mouth of the Financial Secretary to the Treasury Ministerial opposition to the bill was declared, and consequently there arose some cross-voting, some Liberal members joining the Government and some Conservatives going into the lobby with the bulk of the Opposition, which had been gathered together under its leaders. The result was that the second reading was carried by a good majority, and the Government received a sidelong check.

At a meeting of the Wakefield Town Council, on Tuesday, it was resolved to build a Townhall at a cost of about £20,000.

The new church dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket at Canterbury was opened on Tuesday by Cardinal Manning, in the presence of many of the Roman Catholic prelates.

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on Monday, resolved to invite M. Chevalier to visit that city next week, to receive an address in recognition of his eminent services to international commerce.

## PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Yesterday week the Lord Chancellor stated the course which the Government proposed to take with regard to the Judicature Bill. The main bearing of the proposition may be briefly set forth. The Act of 1873 is, in amended form, duly to come into operation on Nov. 1, with the exception of the sections that abolish the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords. That jurisdiction is to be maintained for another year, and its final disposition will next Session become the subject of further consideration. In the meantime an intermediary court of appeal will be constituted by the bill, which his Lordship concluded by laying on the table. Lord Selborne, who immediately followed the Lord Chancellor, expressed his satisfaction that the Act of 1873 had not been "finally extinguished;" and, after some remarks from Lords Penzance and Hatherley, the debate was brought to a conclusion.

The course adopted by Lord Carnarvon in dealing with the late native outbreak in Natal was fully discussed on Monday. Earl Grey drew attention to the papers relating to the Kaffir outbreak in Natal, and moved an address to the Crown praying her Majesty to allow the Act of Parliament of the Cape of Good Hope, No. 3 of 1874, to continue in operation. The noble Earl described the nature of the outbreak and condemned the policy pursued towards the Government of Natal. That policy was justified by Lord Carnarvon, and, after a long debate, the motion was withdrawn. The Mutiny Bill and Marine Mutiny Bill passed through Committee.

The Earl of Albemarle, on Tuesday, moved the second reading of the Justices of the Peace Qualification Bill, which proposed to make the qualification £300 a year personal property. The rejection of the bill was moved by Lord Hampton, and, after some critical discussion, it was read the second time. The Patents for Inventions Bill, the Marine Mutiny and the Mutiny Bills were severally read the third time and passed. At the instance of Lord Salisbury, the Indian Legislation Bill, the object of which is to consolidate the law which gives legislative powers to the Indian Council, was read the second time.

Their Lordships sat to a later hour than usual on Thursday for the purpose of considering the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill upon its second reading, which was moved by the Duke of Richmond. The bill was ultimately read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sir H. James replied, yesterday week, to a question as to his engagement as counsel in a case relating to the Paraguayan Loan, and declared that he had not been influenced by this circumstance in bringing forward his motion for a Committee on Loans to Foreign States. Mr. Beresford-Hope having introduced the subject of the extension and improvement of the National Gallery, Lord H. Lennox assured him that there was no intention at present to carry the alteration and expansion of the building further than that which was now going on. Attention was then called to the wrongs of the shareholders of the Bank of Bombay by Mr. Gregory, and he moved a resolution which would pledge the Government to the consideration of their case. It was opposed by Lord G. Hamilton on the part of the Government, and on a division was rejected by 101 to 37. Next Lord C. Beresford raised the question of manning the Navy; and, after that, Mr. Bruce urged that there ought to be further inquiry into the question of the locality and constitution of the proposed college for naval cadets before any grant of public money be taken for that purpose. The Navy Estimates were then taken, and all the votes, except three, which were postponed, were passed.

A report was, on Monday, brought up from the Committee on Public Petitions stating that a petition had been presented referring to the case of the Tichborne claimant which contained reflections on the Judges and on the Speaker, and other irregularities which rendered it unfit to be received. Mr. Disraeli gave notice that on Tuesday he should move that the report be taken into consideration. The subject of two questions which had been put on Thursday and Friday last week to Sir Henry James with regard to his professional connection with a suit relating to the Paraguayan loan was revived by Sir Lawrence Palk, who made an explanation on the matter, to which Sir Henry James replied. The Artisans' Dwellings Bill was further considered in Committee, and clauses from 7 to 14 were passed. The Explosive Substances Bill was taken in Committee.

Mr. C. E. Lewis, on Tuesday, brought forward the question of a breach of privilege committed by the *Times* and *Daily News* in publishing the evidence taken before the Committee on Loans to Foreign States. A motion declaring that a breach of privilege had been committed having been agreed to, Mr. Lewis moved that the printer of the *Times* be called to the bar on Friday. After a long discussion, in which Mr. Disraeli supported and Lord Hartington opposed the resolution, a division took place, and the motion was adopted by 204 to 153. Another resolution to call the printer of the *Daily News* to the bar was also carried by 199 to 155. The subject of the law of slander and the need for its amendment was brought forward by Sir W. Fraser, but, after brief debate, his motion on the subject was withdrawn. It was then moved by Mr. Baillie Cochrane that, a conference having been held at Brussels in 1874 on international law, which is to be renewed at St. Petersburg, a favourable opportunity is afforded to this country to withdraw from the Declaration of Paris in 1856, and thus maintaining our maritime rights. The previous question was moved by Mr. W. C. Cartwright, and the original motion was negatived by 261 to 36. Considerable debate took place on the nomination by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the Select Committee on Banks of Issue.

Sir John Lubbock on Wednesday moved the second reading of the Ancient Monuments Bill, which proposes to appoint a commission, invested with large powers, to secure the preservation of ancient monumental relics in this kingdom. The rejection of the measure was moved by Sir Charles Legard and Lord Francis Hervey, but after a long debate, in the course of which the bill was opposed by the Government, the second reading was carried by 187 to 165. Afterwards the Offences against the Person Bill was read the second time, and the Municipal Elections Bill was passed through Committee.

Mr. Disraeli moved on Thursday, in the subject of a petition from Prittlewell, that the order for laying it on the table be read and rescinded. The petition impugned the honour of the Judges who presided at the trial of the convict Orton, and prayed that they be withdrawn from the Bench. It went on to say that the petitioners had heard with alarm that the Speaker of the House of Commons refused to receive petitions complaining that a fair trial had not been given to a certain person, and ended by asking the House to impeach the Speaker. There was some discussion, Mr. Kenealy and Mr. Whalley being heard at considerable length in defence of the petition; and, finally, Mr. Disraeli's motion to reject the petition was agreed to by 391 against 11.

## THE BUDGET.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer made his annual financial statement, the broad result of which was as follows:—Instead of £74,425,000, as anticipated, the year has produced a total of £74,921,873. This is made up as follows: Customs have yielded

£19,289,000, against a Budget estimate of £18,740,000; Excise, £27,395,000, against £27,610,000; Stamps, £10,540,000, in lieu of £10,880,000; Taxes, £2,440,000, compared with £2,360,000; Income Tax, £4,306,000, against £3,960,000; Post Office, £5,670,000, instead of £5,300,000; Telegraphs, £1,120,000, against £1,250,000; Crown Lands, £385,000, in place of £375,000; and Miscellaneous, £3,776,873, against £3,950,000. The National Debt up to March 31, 1875, amounted to £775,553,000, showing a reduction of more than £3,000,000 from what it was in the previous year. Having made some general proposals for the reduction of the National Debt, the right hon. gentleman proposed to make one uniform scale of brewers' licenses, at the rate of 12s. 6d. for every fifty barrels; and to reduce the stamp duty upon written appointments to offices from 5s. per cent on the first year's salary to 5s. per cent. Referring to the subject of local loans, he proposed to introduce a bill to provide that all future debts contracted by local authorities shall be contracted in the form of debentures. The estimated expenditure of the coming year was as follows:—Interest on Debt, £27,215,900; Consolidated Charges, £1,590,000; Army, £19,678,000; Navy, £10,785,000; Civil Service, £12,656,000; Post Office, £3,036,000; Collection of Revenue, £2,694,000; Telegraph Service, £1,098,000; Packet Service, £878,000. Total Estimates, £75,266,000. The estimated revenue for the coming year was:—Customs, £19,500,000; Excise, £27,800,000; Stamps, £10,000,000; Land Tax and House Duty, £2,450,000; Property and Income Tax, £3,900,000; Post Office, £5,750,000; Telegraph service, £1,200,000; Crown Lands, £385,000; Miscellaneous, £1,100,000. Total revenue, £75,685,000, showing a surplus over the estimated expenditure of £417,000. The loss to the revenue by the modification of the brewers' licenses would be £60,000. The right hon. gentleman stated that he could not hold out a hope of any further remission of taxation, believing that there was no great or crying necessity for a readjustment of taxation. In regard to the income tax, he contended that the smallness of its present amount had materially diminished its oppressive character. It was, therefore, not proposed to interfere with it, then. The right hon. gentleman finally concluded by moving a formal resolution for the continuance of the duty of sixpence upon tea.

A brief discussion ensued, which ended by the resolution being agreed to.

## THE CHURCH.

## PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Blathwayt, Wynter Thomas, to be Rector of Dyrham, Gloucestershire. Copleston, W. C.; Rector of Willand, Devon. Courtenay, Robert; Rector of Caenby, Lincolnshire, and Honorary Chaplain to the Earl of Scarborough. Daykin, W. Y.; Archdeacon of Durban, diocese of Maritzburgh. Eyre, William L. Williamson; Rector of Swaraton-cum-Northington. Falkner, Thomas; Vicar of Burton Leonard. Fortescue, R. H.; Vicar of St. Paul's, Exeter. Goode, W.; Vicar of St. Budeaux. Green, J. H.; Rector of Croglin, near Penrith. Harris, Samuel Bache; Vicar of St. James's, Kennington. Hilton, H.; Rural Dean of South Malmesbury. Hind, W. M.; Vicar of Pinner; Rector of Honington, Suffolk. Hodgson, John Dryden; Rector of Collingbourne Ducis, Wilts. Hyde, C. F.; Chaplain to the High Sheriff of Wilts. Killick, J. H.; Perpetual Curate of Prestwold, Leicestershire. Marychurch, H. W.; Vicar of Ingrow, Keighley, Yorkshire. Morgan, John Holdsworth; Chaplain of Camberwell Cemetery. Ormsby, G. A.; Rector of Jarrow; Rector of Rainton, Durham. Pierson, H. C.; Curate of St. Jude's, Manningham, Bradford. Pigot, W. M.; Vicar of Eaton, Norwich. Ponsonby, Hon. Maurice John George; Vicar of St. Stephen's, Kirkstall. Todd, Herbert; Vicar of Kildwick. Walton, J.; Curate-in-Charge of St. Columba's, Newton, Glasgow.

It is stated that the offertory at All Saints' Church, Clifton, on Easter Day, amounted to £7000, besides numerous jewels.

Mr. Callender, M.P., laid, on the 3rd inst., the first stone of the Church of St. Paul, Heaton Moor, near Stockport.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has left Addington Park for Lambeth Palace for the season.

A new chancel is being erected at the parish church of Cranborne, in Dorset, and the Marquis of Salisbury will bear the whole expense of the work.

The company appointed for the revision of the authorised version of the Old Testament held their thirty-first session last week, in the Jerusalem Chamber.

The Right Rev. Dr. Hugh Willoughby Jermyn, third Bishop of Colombo, has intimated his intention of resigning that see in consequence of illness.

Canon Jeffreys, of Hawkhurst, has been elected a member of Convocation, in the place of Canon Riddell, who has retired on account of ill-health.

The foundation-stone of the new parish church of St. Nicholas, Guildford, of which the Rev. Dr. Monsell is Rector, was laid, on the 3rd inst., by the Duke of Northumberland.

At the Easter vestry at Hurst, near Reading, the Vicar, the Rev. A. A. Cameron, stated that Miss Hurst, of Holme Park, Sonning, had offered to restore and enlarge the parish church.

Mr. Lawrence Stephenson has restored, in memory of his sister, the interior of the church of Holmwood, Yorkshire, the exterior work being done by the parishioners.

The Bishop of London presided, on Monday, at the annual meeting of the London Diocesan Board of Education, and in his opening address dwelt upon the influence of the Education Act on the denominational-school system.

The anniversary festival of the Friends of the Clergy Corporation was held, on Wednesday, at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of Mr. J. D. Allcroft, and was largely attended. Subscriptions were announced amounting to £760.

A fine east window has been presented to St. Andrew's Church, Boreham, by the Way family, in memory of the late Vicar, the Rev. C. J. Way, and one of his sons, a young Indian officer, who was murdered at Allahabad during the Mutiny.

Rotherwick church, Hants, was recently reopened by the Bishop of Winchester, who preached on the occasion. The works have cost £1602, of which Mr. C. H. Harris contributed £500 and the Rector (the Rev. J. Chataway) £300.

A testimonial, which was first proposed about three years ago and has since assumed the form of a fund for a scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music, was presented to Sir John Goss, former organist of St. Paul's, in the large room of the Chapter-house. Mr. John Hullah presided.

Another stained-glass window, of unusual beauty, has been placed in Christ Church, Linnet-lane, Liverpool. It represents figures of Faith, Patience, and Charity, and is a memorial to the late wife of Mr. Palgrave Simpson. The window has been executed by Messrs. Mayer and Co.

Earl Nelson, who presided, last Saturday, at the annual meeting of the London Association of Church School Managers and Teachers, expressed a hope that it would flourish and be joined by more of those who were desirous of advancing the cause of education.



The contributions to the memorial to Canon Kingsley amount to £1058. The committee propose enlarging and improving Eversley church, in accordance with Mr. Kingsley's expressed wishes, and the erection of a memorial chapel at Bromshill to perpetuate a service instituted by him.

The fine old parish church of Rotherham was reopened last week, after having undergone a complete restoration. Sir Gilbert Scott has been the architect, the cost being £9000. The Archbishop of York preached the opening sermon in the morning, and Bishop Alford preached in the evening. There was a public luncheon in the afternoon.

The Dean of St. Paul's and Mr. Beresford Hope have issued the prospectus of "The Church Quarterly," which is to be "a sound, high-class periodical, setting forth the results of real study and reflection on the highest of all subjects in such a manner as to be worthily representative of the teaching and position of the Church of England."

The Bishop of Rochester recently consecrated a district church at Mill End, Rickmansworth. The new church, which is in the Gothic style, and dedicated to St. Peter, is built upon a site which has been given by Lord Ebury; and Mrs. Walker, of Money-hill House, has subscribed £2100 towards the edifice. The Rev. C. Wallace Neild has been appointed Vicar.

Both Houses of the Convocation of the Southern Province met at Westminster, on Tuesday, for the dispatch of business. In the Lower House a petition signed by 3860 clergymen and 71,250 lay communicants of the Church of England was presented, praying for the maintenance of the Prayer-book of 1662, and the retention of such ornaments as were prescribed by the Prayer-book of 1549.

The new Church of St. Nicholas, Manca, in the Isle of Ely, was recently consecrated by the Bishop of the diocese, who preached the morning sermon. The church, which has cost £3860, will accommodate 430 worshippers. The principal contributors have been Mr. W. Whitting of Thorney Abbey, Lord Rokeby, the patron, Mr. M. L. Sears of Manca, and the Rector.

The Bishop of Worcester consecrated, on the 2nd inst., the new Church of St. James, Welland, which replaces an old and dilapidated structure, built in 1761, and accommodating only 150 persons. The new church, which will seat 400, is adorned with an east window by Hardman, presented by Lady Beauchamp. The old peal of four bells (two of them cracked) has also been replaced by a melodious set of six, cast by Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough.

In the diocese of Canterbury 311 churches have been built or restored since 1840, at a cost of £917,399. Of this sum £22,686 has been either provided directly by church rates or borrowed on them, £14,738 has been contributed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £18,903 has been given by church-building societies, £81,510 has been derived from Queen Anne's Bounty and from various church funds, whilst a sum of not less than £779,562 has been obtained from private benefaction.

The Rev. Joseph Marychurch Vaughan, Vicar of St. John the Evangelist, St. George's-in-the-East, has had presented to him by his parishioners a handsome épergne, silver, &c., of the value of 100 guineas, also an illuminated address, in recognition of his zeal for the welfare of his large parish during the past eleven years.—A silver salver, an illuminated address, and a purse containing over £200 have been presented to the Rev. Canon Brooke, late Vicar of Holy Trinity, Hull.

The annual meeting of the Diocesan Church Building Society was held at Manchester, on the 1st inst., under the presidency of the Bishop of Manchester. It was stated in the report that by the help of the previous year's grants an addition would be made to the preceding church accommodation of about 7547 sittings, of which 6306 were free; while ten new parishes would be formed and pastoral superintendence supplied by the additional clergy of six new districts for more than 20,000 persons.

Dean Stanley delivered an eloquent address, on the 2nd inst., in the Albert Institute Hall, Dundee, on Calvin, Galileo, and Shakespeare. He pointed out how the fame and services to mankind of the mathematician and writer of plays had been more lasting than that of the once world-renowned theologian. On Sunday week the Dean preached to a very large congregation in the East Church, Dundee, taking for his text the words, "Peace be unto you;" and on Tuesday he delivered an address on early Northumberland Christianity, in the Victoria Hall, Sunderland, in aid of the restoration of St. Bede's Church, the oldest sacred edifice in the north.

The parish church of Upton Pyne, Devon, was reopened for Divine service on Easter Eve, after having undergone a thorough restoration, under the superintendence of Mr. W. White, F.S.A. The chancel has been relaid with coloured tiles; and a small marble tablet under its north arch bears the following inscription:—"To the glory of God, this chancel is restored and the organ aisle built in memory of Mary, third Countess of Chichester, and George Carr Glyn, first Baron Wolverton, by their children, Francis G. and Alice C. Pelham, A.D. 1874." The altar cloth, which is of very dark crimson velvet, has the monogram and cross in gold, with a half wreath of lilies beautifully worked by Lady Mary Fortescue. The cost of the restoration has been about £1700, of which £400 was raised by a rate and the rest from private sources.

The Head Mastership of the Dorset County School, Dorchester, has been conferred upon the Rev. Thomas Russell Wright, M.A., formerly Curate of Leytonstone, Essex.

The death of Commander Robert Trotter, the oldest officer in the British Navy, is announced. He entered the Navy in October, 1789, and was present at the victory over the Dutch fleet off Camperdown in 1797.

Lord Carnarvon, in reply to a deputation from a body formed to promote emigration to Brazil, defended his recent circular warning persons not to emigrate to that country; but, upon an offer to guarantee the return of those who did not wish to remain, he promised to suspend action in the matter.

Mr. J. S. Forbes, the chairman of the Metropolitan District Railway Company, presided over a meeting of the shareholders yesterday week, called for the purpose of considering a bill before Parliament for connecting their line with the South Western. The bill was approved. The connection is proposed to be made at Hammersmith, and will give the District trains access to Richmond, Kew Bridge, and Hounslow.

In the Irish Church Synod, on Thursday week, the second reading of the fourth bill on the Creed of St. Athanasius, which in effect enacted that certain clauses, called the "damatory clauses," should be omitted from the public services of the Church, was, after considerable discussion, passed by the following vote:—Clergy—ayes, 88; noes, 44. Laymen—ayes, 134; noes, 14. Yesterday week the Archbishop reported that the House of Bishops at their meeting, held on the previous day, to consider the motion for the second reading of the bill to strike out the damatory clauses of the Athanasian Creed, has resolved by eight votes to three in favour of the motion.

## THE NEW ALEXANDRA PALACE.

A view of the outside of the Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill, rebuilt after its destruction by fire two years ago, was given last week. We now present an illustration of the central great hall, which is 386 ft. long and 181 ft. wide, affording room to seat 12,000 persons. It has four rows of columns, with a middle span of 85 ft. Statues of the Kings and Queens of England are placed at the base of the colonnade. The decorations are coloured in chocolate-brown, lavender, and grey; the light is admitted through two long strips of white glass, with ruby borders, in the roof, and through coloured glass lunettes, and a round window at each end. The building has been constructed by Messrs. Lucas Brothers, the architect being Mr. J. Johnson. Mr. Conrad Schmidt executed the decorations, which were all done from the designs of Mr. Johnson, and Messrs. Farmer and Brindley the statues. The great organ, in this hall, was built, under the superintendence of Sir Michael Costa, by Mr. H. Willis. It possesses five claviers, four of these are manuals, and comprise five couplet octaves; the pedal clavier consists of two octaves and a fifth. The pedal organ contains sixteen stops; the first manual, or choir organ, seventeen stops; the second clavier, or great organ, twenty-one stops; the third clavier, of twenty-one stops; the fourth clavier, of fourteen stops; besides which are fifteen accessory stops. The bellows are worked by two steam-engines—one of eight-horse and the other of twelve-horse power. The organist is Mr. Frederick Archer.

## SIGNOR SALVINI.

Our weekly record and commentary, dealing with all current novelties and notabilities in the department of dramatic art, took notice, on the last occasion, of this powerful and accomplished Italian actor. His performance of Othello, in his native language, at Drury-Lane Theatre, continues to attract and to interest a large audience night after night. Tommaso Salvini, a Florentine by birth, has, during the last two years, with a company of other Italian actors and actresses, been sojourning by turn in many cities, English, Spanish, or Brazilian, of North and South America, and has more recently visited Paris. His success may be compared with that of Madame Ristori, as it is achieved in spite of the not always perfect comprehension of Italian speech on the part even of cultivated hearers, amongst a foreign nation. It is true that all educated persons know their Shakespeare, and are thus enabled to appreciate the force and truth with which our great poet's conceptions, being not at all local or insular, but wide as humanity in their range of feelings and ideas, are rendered by these gifted Italian performers. We may also remark that, in those plays of Shakespeare's which are founded, like "Othello, the Moor of Venice," on Italian tales or romances, the development of the story often calls for the exhibition of darker and fiercer passions, more deadly hatred and jealousy, or blacker guile and perfidy, than would be allowed by the tame and placid manner in which we live in modern England. It is wonderful how true Shakespeare's ideas of the Italian or the Frenchman of his time, or of the ancient Greek or Roman, usually were; though he is believed never to have travelled on the Continent, and persons of foreign birth, except perhaps Flemings, were rather more scarce in England under Queen Elizabeth's reign than they are now. The characters of Othello and Iago, for example, are remarkable as types of some peculiar veins of thought and sentiment that prevailed among men of different classes, and varieties of individual disposition, in the city-republics or principalities of mediæval Italy. Every reader of the old Italian literature must recognise this fact. As the moral characteristics of a nation, therefore, do not become wholly extinct in three or four centuries, it is probable that an Italian actor of the present day may perceive and appropriate some shades or hues of character which would perhaps have escaped an English performer.

The portrait is from a photograph by Messrs. Fradelle and Marshall, of Regent-street.

## THE VOLUNTEERS.

The preliminary prize-list for the forthcoming meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon has been issued. The Queen's prize series amounts to £1918, exclusive of medals and badges, the highest individual prize being £250, the gift of the Queen, and the National Rifle Association gold medal. The first stage will be shot for with Snider rifles, and the second stage with the Martini-Henry. The total value of the prizes in the St. George's series is larger than last year, and amounts to £1114. The Prince of Wales's prize of £100, with supplementary prizes to a like amount, will be shot for with sniders at 200, 500, and 600 yards. The Public Schools Veterans' Match, which was an experiment last year, is to be repeated. It will be restricted to old pupils from each of the seven schools included in the Public Schools Act, 1869, and of the schools which have competed at Wimbledon before this year for the Ashburton Shield. The Lords and Commons' match is to be shot at the Running Deer, which will make it much more attractive if proper arrangements are made for letting the spectators see the shooting. Most of the other prizes are the same as last year, except that there is no "Nursery" series. The Albert series is open to "any rifle."

The annual spring muster and march out of the city of London corps to Hyde Park will be to-day (Saturday). The muster of the corps will be at Finsbury-square at four o'clock, and will include each branch of the service—Artillery (1st London), Engineers (London), Rifles (1st, 2nd, and 3rd London).

The first of the series of brigade field-days of the metropolitan volunteers this season will take place on Saturday, May 1, in Bushey Park, when the following corps will assemble, viz.:—London Rifle Brigade, under Colonel Hayter, M.P.; 21st Middlesex (Civil Service), under Colonel Viscount Bury; 26th Middlesex (her Majesty's Customs and Docks), under Colonel Kennard, M.P.; and the 49th Middlesex, under Colonel Du Plat Taylor.

Earl Cowper, who commands the 2nd Administrative Battalion of Hertfordshire Rifle Volunteers, has invited several of the metropolitan corps to take part in a field-day which he is arranging for Whit Monday in his beautiful park at Panshanger, Herts, and it is understood that the invitation has been well responded to. On the same day there will be several parades of other metropolitan volunteer corps. On Whit Monday also, at the invitation of the Marquis of Westminster, the Queen's (Westminster) will proceed to Cliveden.

The 3rd Essex Artillery have received authority to encamp at Harwich from May 15 to May 19 for gun practice.

The 1st Administrative Battalion Lincolnshire will form a camp at Thornton Abbey from June 21 to June 26.

The Rev. J. P. Chown has accepted the call of the late Dr. Brock's congregation meeting at Bloomsbury-square Chapel, and last week his congregation at Zion Chapel, Bradford, accepted his resignation. Mr. Chown severs his connection with Bradford after June 1.

## NATIONAL SPORTS.

In spite of the unaccountable absence of two-year-old racing, we never remember a more interesting Craven week, or one that had a more important bearing on the future. The Fortieth Riddlesworth Stakes was reduced to a match between Garterly Bell and Timour, and, after a rattling finish, the former won by a neck. From this result we may assume one of two things—that Lord Falmouth's horse has no chance in the Two Thousand, or that Timour will very nearly win the City and Suburban. It is impossible for anyone, except those in the secrets of one of the two stables, to decide positively which of these conclusions is the correct one; but we incline to the former. The Bretby Plate witnessed the easy victory of Carnelion (7 st. 7 lb.), who carried the familiar "blue and yellow" of the house of Rothschild; and this promising son of Lecturer and Tourmalin might have won many a good race had he not been disqualified for all his engagements by the death of the late Baron. The Thirty-ninth Riddlesworth was also very interesting, being selected for the debut of Bay of Naples, whom many people believed to be a second George Frederick. His only opponent was New Holland, who just defeated him by a head, after a close struggle all the way. As New Holland was a very moderate colt last year, we may safely dismiss any thoughts of Bay of Naples in connection with the Derby; still, as he was by no means fit, he will doubtless improve on this performance. The Buses Handicap was remarkable for a dead-heat of three; and, in the run-off, Trombone (10 st. 4 lb.), on whom Fordham had his second mount of the season, won cleverly, despite his welter weight. He is one of the very few worthy representatives of Kettle-drum; and, with Prince Charlie out of the way and Tangle under suspicion, ought to be successful in many T.Y.C. scrambles this season. When Prince Soltykoff decided not to start Balfie for the Newmarket Biennial that race lost much of its interest, and was regarded at the mercy of Earl of Dartrey. This view proved to be strictly correct, as the only one that could make the semblance of a fight with him was the Macaroni—Repentance colt. The result of the race showed that the glowing reports of the improvement made by Earl of Dartrey were well founded, for he finished four lengths in front of the Repentance colt, whereas when they met last season in the Clearwell Stakes, on precisely similar terms, Lord Falmouth's horse beat him by a length. After the race Earl of Dartrey was backed freely at 6 to 1 for the Guineas.

The racing on Wednesday was not nearly so good as on the previous day; still, there were two very interesting events. In a 450 plate, A.F., Basnas, a Danish horse, by Lord Clifden—Stockings, made his first appearance in England. He won several times in Germany last year, yet it was considered that Carnelion would have no trouble in conceding him 12 lb. This, however, proved quite beyond his power, and Basnas, who is evidently a fine stayer, won in a canter by a couple of lengths. He was immediately backed down to 11 to 1 for the City and Suburban, in which he will have to carry 6 st. 10 lb. Ceruleus, an own brother to Blue Gown, made his first appearance in this race, and ran third. He was a June foal, so is really only a two-year-old at present, and will, of course, require more time to show his best form. Ten ran for the Newmarket Handicap, which nineteen people out of twenty thought Peeping Tom (8 st. 2 lb.) won pretty easily. However, the angles at Newmarket are extraordinarily deceptive, and Judge Clark's verdict was, "Saint Leger by half a length." The winner, who carried 5 st. 13 lb., is by Trumpeter from Marigold, the dam of Doncaster, and was purchased at Doncaster in 1873 for 1800 gs. He ran twice last season without success. Bertram (8 st. 12 lb.) was a good deal fancied, but once more disappointed his backers; and Ecossais (8 st. 1 lb.) could not stay the course.

Last week Messrs. Tattersall disposed of the stud which belonged to the late Mr. Gerard Leigh, and which unquestionably comprised the finest lot of steeplechase horses which have ever been in the possession of one man. The twelve realised 6210 gs., or an average of a little over 517 gs. The highest price was obtained for Defence (1650 gs.), a consistently fine performer, and then came Palm (1350 gs.) and Disturbance (1200 gs.).

The Second Spring Meeting of the London Athletic Club took place at Lillie-bridge on Saturday last. There were an immense number of entries for the various events, and the racing generally was remarkably good, though there was no individual performance which calls for special comment. The spectators did not muster in such force as usual, owing to the unfavourable weather.

Baily for April is unusually good, though we miss an article from the polished pen of "Amphion." The number is adorned with capital portraits of Mr. H. Spencer Lucy and H. Jupp, probably the best professional batsman in the world at the present time. Another chapter of "Frank Raleigh of Watercombe" does not advance the story very far; but "Conger-Fishing on the Coast of North Cornwall" and "Boniface's Benefit" are very interesting, especially the latter, which is a thoroughly well-written story. "Our Van," ably driven as ever, brings up the rear.

## FIRE AT A LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The establishment at St. Pons, Nice, for the care of insane persons, was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday, the 4th inst. It was at half-past four in the morning that the fire broke out. The pompiers or firemen, aided by the gendarmes and a detachment of soldiers, did all they could to put a stop to the conflagration. But, in spite of their exertions, it spread through the whole interior of the building. By heroic efforts, both of the military and the fire brigade, all the inmates of the asylum except three were got out in safety. Three perished in the flames; while some of those who were saved from this dreadful fate escaped out of custody and wandered away through the neighbourhood. The building was a large one, of three stories, with thirty-six windows in the width of each story. One side was occupied by the male patients, the other by the females. The fire began in the kitchen, which was in the central part of the building. Our illustration is from a sketch by Mr. W. T. R. Powell.

The first sitting of the Factory and Workshop Acts Commission was held on Monday, and Sir George Young was appointed secretary.

A Royal order, dated March 31, is published in Tuesday's Gazette declaring that the brothers and sisters of the present Lord St. Leonards shall enjoy the same title and precedence as if their late father, the Hon. Henry Sugden, had survived his father, the late Lord St. Leonards.

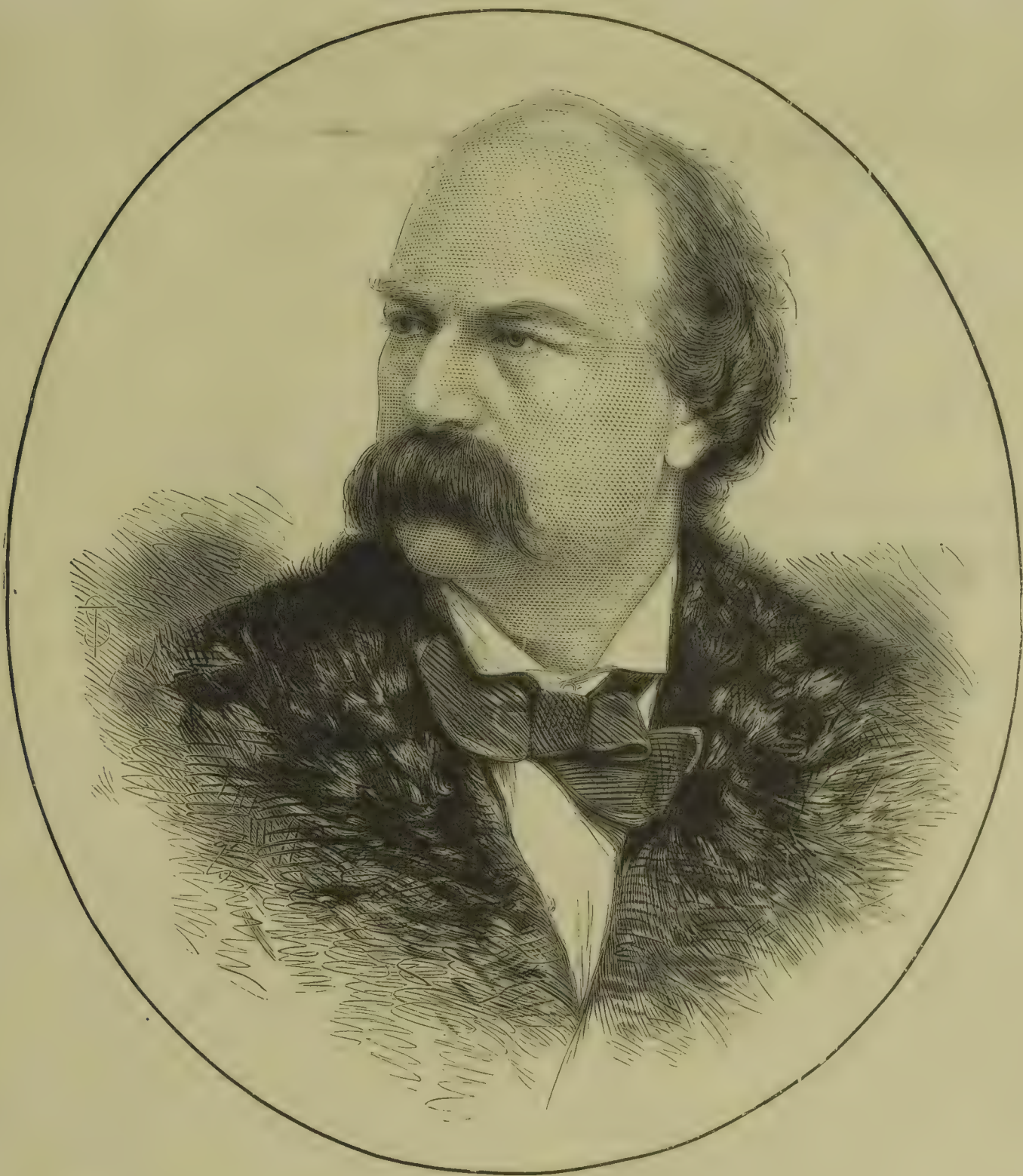
The death of Mr. Thomas Wright, of Manchester, better known as the prison philanthropist, is announced, at the age of eighty-six. In early life he worked in Manchester at an iron foundry, and devoted his leisure to ameliorating the condition of prisoners. In 1852 an annuity was purchased for him, and ever since he has devoted himself unobtrusively to the good work which has been the chief object of his life.



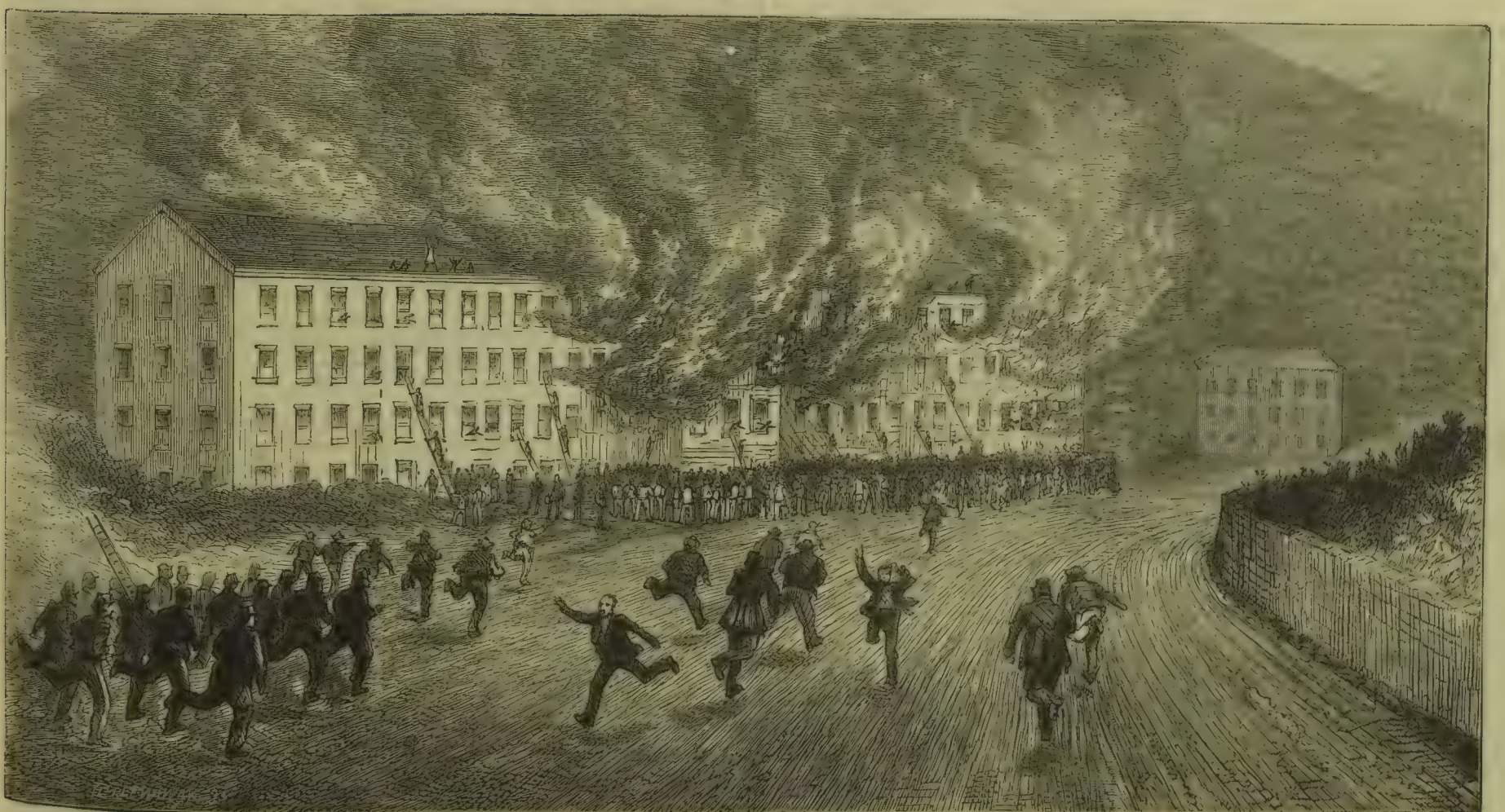


THE CENTRAL HALL, ALEXANDRA PALACE.





SIGNOR SALVINI, THE ITALIAN TRAGEDIAN.



BURNING OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM AT ST. PONS, NICE.



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The Last Express Train will leave Victoria, 1.30 p.m.; London Bridge, 1.20 p.m.; and Kensington, 1.25 p.m.

Mr. Russell, an attorney's clerk, brought an action for slander against Mr. Gould, ex-Mayor of Kingston, and it was tried at Kingston Assizes yesterday week. The defendant

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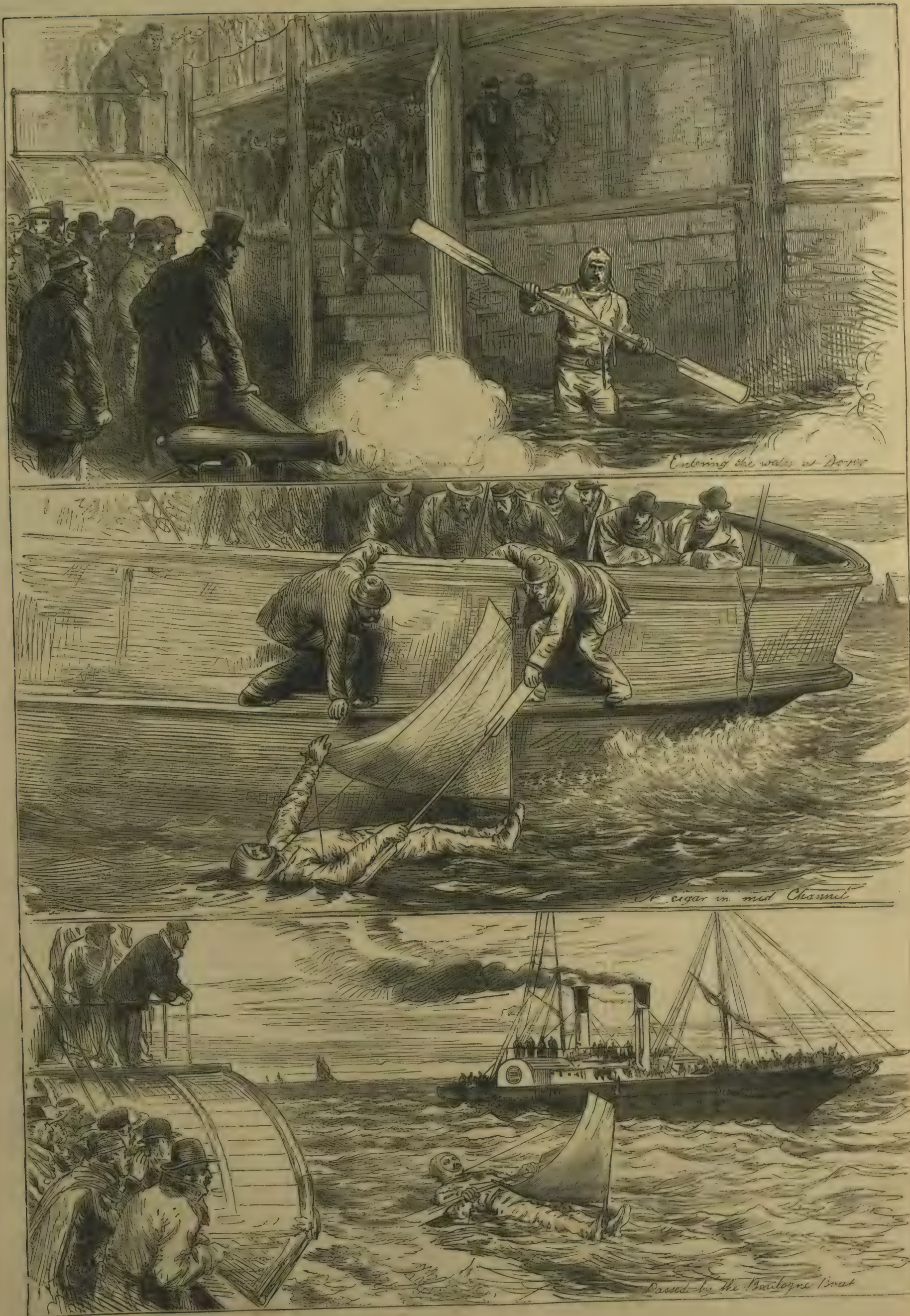
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THE PRINCESS OF WALES LAUNCHING THE NEW IRONCLAD ALEXANDRA.





CAPTAIN BOYTON'S VOYAGE ACROSS THE CHANNEL.



## FINE ARTS.

The eleventh annual exhibition of cabinet pictures by British and foreign artists, at Mr. M'Lean's gallery, in the Haymarket, consists mainly of foreign works, fully three fourths of the contents being by Continental painters. The collection comprises, as usual, a number of distinguished names, though the examples are not always important or adequately representative. As a whole, however, the selection maintains a high level of merit. One of the principal attractions is a picture by Fortuny, the young Spanish painter, whose comet-like career lately closed so prematurely. This singular work, called "The Antechamber," representing an Arab guard lolling against a huge carpet suspended as a hanging, exemplifies the artist in his robust and daring, not his more delicate and sprightly manner, and the artificial tendencies of the art are sufficiently obvious. The carpet, which occupies so disproportionate a space that the work is rather a picture of a carpet than of anything else—has afforded, in its rich Oriental pattern (together with the picturesque costume and arms of the guard, and a bit of marble pavement), an opportunity for a display of gorgeous colouring, in which the artist has revelled with the utmost license. To mere material brilliancy of colour and handling, aerial perspective, chiaroscuro, everything is sacrificed; so that the figure is absorbed in the carpet, and not relieved from it by any of the incidents of natural effect and relation. We are much disappointed also with a comparatively large and elaborate picture of the "Place Clichy," by Boldini, which has little of the felicitous truth of aspect of his small works; whilst the dainty, "slick" touch, however clever and expressive, seems out of place in this vulgar, noisy, bustling Parisian scene. We miss the cast shadows that would exist under a blue sky so hard and cold, and atmospheric effects are not to be obtained by mere grey stains. The pathetic power of Israel's well shown in a picture of a fisherman and his mother, in a Schevening cabin, "Saying Grace" over a dish of steaming potatoes and a small fish. A picture by E. Duez, of a girl in a verandah, with sunlight percolating through the thin Japanese blinds, is the most complete and effective work we have seen by this artist. "Playing the Guitar," by F. Peralta, has the extravagance of the Fortuny school, with little true artistic merit. We must be content with commending to notice the following works:—"Minding the Flock," by C. Jacque; "The Young Mother," by Jules Breton; a sketch of "Rotten Row," by De Mitis; figure pictures, by H. Merle, Darzels, and E. Kurtzbaue; small landscapes by Daubigny, J. Dupré, De Haas, Lier, and De Cock; and English pictures by Messrs. Boughton, T. S. Cooper, J. Webb, and G. Cole.

The exhibition of Alpine pictures by M. Loppé, at the Conduit-street Gallery, has been reopened with some additions, the most important of which is a large picture of the "Ascent of Mont Blanc." We have already borne testimony to the ability and fidelity with which M. Loppé deals with the phenomena (rather limited, pictorially considered) of the higher Alps, and the new works will be found to equally bear out our remarks. Among the miscellaneous works which help to fill the gallery are Munkacsy's powerful picture, "Rodeurs du Mint," small pictures by De Nittis, Rosa Bonheur, Meissonier, and Fortuny; and examples of Schreyer, Roybet, J. Webb, C. E. Johnson, H. W. B. Davis, and Sir H. Thompson.

The three days' sale, at Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Wood's, of Mr. Quilter's famous collection of water-colour drawings closed on Saturday last, producing a total of £71,000. The results were in many instances remarkable, and, speaking generally, the more important drawings brought higher prices than had before been reached by auction for similar works. In the Gillott sale there were three drawings by Turner which sold for larger prices, but they were of the highest order—the Heidelberg, sold for £2782 10s.; the Ehrenbreitstein, which fetched the same price; and the Bamfrough Castle, which sold for £3307 10s. The Copley Fielding drawings in Mr. Quilter's collection scarcely realised what was expected from their importance, with the exception of "The Mull of Galloway," which was knocked down for £1732 10s., the largest sum hitherto obtained for a work of his. The works of William Hunt also did not advance, but rather receded a trifle. But the DeWint drawings took a higher stand than they had hitherto done, with the price of £1732 10s. given for the "Southall, Notts," and £504 for the small drawing of a country homestead. In all cases the prices originally paid to the artists were enormously increased. In his lifetime David Cox had often much difficulty in selling his drawings; he rarely received more than 50 gs. for his large ones, and for his small ones—such as have just been sold at from £50 to £500 each—he had a very few pounds each. De Wint accepted a commission from a dealer of 35 gs. each for six drawings like that which now sold for 1650 gs. Copley Fielding was contented with similar moderate prices, such as £40, the sum he actually received for the "Rivaux Abbey," which brought now £997 10s. Hunt also worked willingly at prices of from £30 to £50 for his drawings. It must not be supposed, however, that the dealers reap these enormous profits. They buy and sell at the price of the day, adding, as a rule, only 10 per cent, which is the usual commission recognized and admitted by the private purchaser; though, of course, a drawing may pass through a dealer's hands several times at greatly increased prices. It is the judicious collector, the capitalist, who can afford to keep his treasures a few years, who realises these immense profits. Mr. Quilter has, it is said, obtained fifty-five times the cost of one of his drawings, and something like 260 per cent upon the whole collection, which he commenced to form about fifteen years back. The augmentation in the market value of some classes of oil pictures (those, for instance, of David Cox) has been even greater, and has taken place within more recent years.

The late Mr. Foley will be represented at the forthcoming Royal Academy Exhibition by works in marble, bronze, and plaster. Among these is the memorial statue, for Cambridge, of the late Prince Consort, in his robes as Chancellor of the University.

Mr. Weekes, the eminent sculptor, will not exhibit at the Academy this year, he having adopted the practice, common in Italy, of opening his gallery (the spacious and well-filled gallery of his master, Chantrey) to the public daily.

Messrs. Adolph Frankaus and Co., of Queen Victoria-street, have produced a handsome album for the photographs of celebrities. The drawings in it are by Munich artists, and the work has been executed at Düsseldorf.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge sold at their rooms in Wellington-street, last week, a collection of English pottery and porcelain, formed by Mr. John James Bagshaw, of Sheffield. The collection realised £1363.

The amount of bank-notes held by the public on Dec. 30 last was £26,142,000; the notes held in reserve on that day amounted to £9642; the coin held in reserve, £709,000. The amount of bullion in the Bank on that day was £21,493,000.

## MUSIC.

## THE OPERA SEASON.

Mr. Mapleson began his new season of Her Majesty's Opera at Drury Lane Theatre on Saturday evening. The opera was "Fidelio," with Mdlle. Titiens as Leonora, in which character that great artist sang and acted with the fine declamation and dramatic power which she has so often displayed in the same part. Her reception was throughout of the most enthusiastic kind. As Florestano, Signor Bignardi made his first appearance here. In the scene at the opening of the second act, when the imprisoned husband of Leonora is discovered in his dungeon, Signor Bignardi produced but little impression; but his shares in the following trio and quartet, and the duet with Leonora preceding the great finale, were given with much more effect, and seemed to indicate qualifications which may hereafter be more fully manifested. The other characters were filled as before—Marcellina by Mdlle. Bauermeister, Rocco by Herr Behrens, Jacquino by Signor Rinaldini, Il Ministro by Signor Costa, and Pizarro by Signor Catalani, who suddenly replaced Signor Gallassi in consequence of this gentleman's indisposition. The quartet (canon) in the first act received the usual encore, as did the grand "Leonora" overture (No. 3), which was finely played between the acts of the opera; that (No. 4) in E major having preceded it. Sir M. Costa, who conducted, was received with great applause on his first entry into the orchestra. Previous to the performances the National Anthem was given by band and chorus.

On Tuesday Signor Brignoli made a successful first appearance as Lionello, in "Marta." He produced most effect in the later portions of the opera, particularly in the aria, "M'appari," which was extremely well sung, and had to be repeated. Mdlle. Louise Singelli, who reappeared as Marta (the Lady Enrichetta), sang with the same brilliancy and refinement as before, particularly in the "Spinning" quartet and the romance, "Qui solà, vergin rosa" ("The Last Rose of Summer"), each of which had to be repeated. Madame Trebelli-Bettini was again an excellent representative of Nancy, and the other principal characters were efficiently filled, as during last season, by Herr Behrens, as Plunketto, and Signor Zoboli as Lord Tristano. The ballet-action, in the scene of the statue fair, introduced a very clever solo dancer, Mdlle. Rosina Viale. Sir M. Costa conducted the performances, as usual.

For Thursday, "Lucrezia Borgia" was announced, with the return of Signor Campanini as Gennaro; and to-night (Saturday) "Rigoletto" is to be given, and Mdlle. Elena Varesi is to make her début as Gilda.

Meyerbeer's posthumous opera, "L'Africain," was performed, for the first time this season, at the Royal Italian Opera on Thursday week, when the cast was mostly as before, including the excellent performances of Mdlle. D'Angeri as Selika, Signor Naudin as Vasco di Gama, and Signor Graziani as the slave Nélusko. The character of Ines was transferred to Mdlle. Bianchi, whose freshness of voice and refinement of style were again apparent, although the part requires somewhat more demonstrative force than this meritorious young artist as yet possesses.

On Saturday Mdlle. Zaré Thalberg made her début as Zerlina, in "Don Giovanni," and achieved a very decided success. Bearing the name of one of the greatest pianists and most accomplished musical artists of modern times, the young lady proved herself fully worthy of the association. Her voice is a genuine soprano of the purest quality, capable both of brilliant execution and sympathetic expression. Her intonation and phrasing are alike excellent, in addition to which merits her appearance and manner are highly prepossessing. The freedom from all embarrassment was remarkable in one who, it was stated, had not before appeared on the stage. In her first vocal essay—the duet with Masetto, "Giovinette"—Mdlle. Thalberg at once secured the good opinion of the audience. In the duet with Don Giovanni, "La ci darem," the débutante made a still stronger impression; and even this was enhanced by her charming delivery of Zerlina's two arias, "Batti, batti," and "Vedrai carino," all three pieces having been received with enthusiastic applause and encored. There seems every prospect of a long and bright career for Mdlle. Thalberg, whose gifts and acquirements have rarely been paralleled in one so youthful. The cast of "Don Giovanni" in other respects was one of general efficiency, the title-character having been filled by M. Maurel, those of Donna Anna, Donna Elvira, and Don Ottavio respectively by Madame Vilda, Mdlle. D'Angeri, and Signor Marini—Signori Ciampi, Tagliatice, and Capponi having, as heretofore, been the representatives of Leporello, Masetto, and Il Commendatore. The opera was repeated on Tuesday, when Mdlle. Thalberg renewed and confirmed her success of Saturday. Signor Vianesi conducted the operas just referred to.

There have been five performances at the Royal Italian Opera this week. "La Favorita" was given on Monday, "L'Elisir d'Amore" was announced for Thursday, "Les Huguenots" for Friday, and "La Figlia del Reggimento" for this evening (Saturday), when Mdlle. Marimon is to make her first appearance this season.

With this (Saturday) afternoon the nineteenth season of the Crystal Palace concerts will close with the twenty-fifth performance of the series. The programme includes a violin concerto of Paganini (to be played by Herr Wilhelmj) and an orchestral allegro and scherzo, by Sir J. Benedict, for the first time at these concerts. Last Saturday's selection comprised Weber's concert-stück, for pianoforte and orchestra, the solo part brilliantly executed by Herr Pauer; Brahms's serenade in A (for small orchestra), Mr. J. F. Barnett's orchestral fantasia, illustrative of the "Lay of the Last Minstrel" the overtures to "Jessonda" and "Zanetta," and vocal pieces by Miss E. Wynne and Mr. E. Lloyd.

The Royal Society of Musicians held its 137th anniversary festival, on Saturday, at Willis's Rooms—Earl Beauchamp in the chair. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Prosperity of the Royal Society of Musicians," referred to the conduct of the Dean and Chapter of Worcester in refusing the use of the cathedral for musical festivals, and characterised as a high-handed and unnecessary proceeding the suppressing an institution which had subsisted for more than 150 years. It seemed to him that, if art had any value at all, it was increased when sanctified by association with religion, and he considered that musical art had received a heavy blow at the hands of those who ought to have fostered and encouraged it, and there were few vestries who would not have taken a more enlightened view of their duties and obligations than did the Dean and Chapter of Worcester. After referring to the nature of art and the liability of artists and their families to distress and misfortune, the noble chairman alluded to the excellent manner in which this particular charity had been conducted. Their income was about £3000, and it was expended in the most economical manner. He upheld the claim of England to be considered a musical nation and refined, and said that she alone taught music as a regular study in her Universities. He referred to the honour conferred on the late Sir William Sterndale Bennett, and congratulated the Uni-

versity of Cambridge in appointing Mr. Macfarren as his successor. Other toasts followed, and the treasurer announced donations and subscriptions to the amount of nearly £600. During the evening a selection of music was given by the London Vocal Choral Union (under the direction of Mr. Fred Walker), assisted by Mdlle. Johanna Levier, Madame Poole, and Mr. W. H. Cummings, as vocalists, and Mdlle. Marie Krebs (pianoforte) and Herr Wilhelmj (violin).

The second concert of the Philharmonic Society's new season took place at St. James's Hall on Monday evening, when Joachim Raff's characteristic symphony, entitled "Im Walde," was performed for the first time here. With many passages of great power, and some of real beauty, there is much that is crude and strained, with a general tendency to diffuseness and over-prolongation out of all proportion to the subject-matter. Notwithstanding its excessive length, it was listened to with apparent interest, and applauded at the close of each movement. Monday's instrumental selection also included Beethoven's eighth symphony (in F), Spohr's overture to "Jessonda," and Schumann's pianoforte concerto, finely played by Mdlle. Marie Krebs. Mdlle. Johanna Levier sang, with much power, the great soprano scena from Spohr's "Faust," and two lieder by Rubinstein and Hecht. Mr. Cusins conducted, as usual.

The thirty-first season of the Musical Union matinées (directed by Mr. John Ella) began at St. James's Hall on Tuesday, when two string quartets were given—Haydn's in C (No. 57) and Beethoven's in A (from his op. 18). These were finely led by the eminent Florentine violinist, Signor Papini, who was efficiently supported by M. Wiener (second violin), M. von Waefelghem (viola), and M. Lasserre (violinello). Herr E. Stoeger (from Düsseldorf) made a successful début in the pianoforte part of Raff's trio in G and two solo pieces—Bach's toccata in E minor, and a pretty "romance sans paroles," composed by the pianist. The second matinée is to take place on April 27.

Mr. Ransford, the veteran basso, gave his annual Ballad Concert at St. James's Hall on Wednesday evening, when—besides his own vocal performances—the programme offered a varied selection by eminent artists.

Mr. Joseph Williams, the eminent performer on the clarinet, has just died, in his eightieth year. Mr. Williams was for many years associated with the Philharmonic Society, of which he was a director. He was not only a fine orchestral artist, but also a skilful concerto player, and was much respected personally.

## THEATRES.

We find that at Drury-Lane Signor Salvini appears on alternate nights, the intervening ones being occupied with Italian Opera. The great actor performed on Monday, with the same strong effect and grand tragic expression as on the first night of his appearance here, and evidently now attracts an increasing audience.

"Rose Michel" at the Gaiety having proved a failure, Miss Mary Gladstone has wisely accepted other rôles. Her performance of Lady Gay Spanker, in Mr. Boucicault's revived comedy of "London Assurance," is forcible; but there is a reticence in art which the new actress has yet to learn, the observance of which imparts grace and refinement that makes more acceptable acting even the most powerful.

At the Strand a new bouffonnerie musicale by Mr. H. B. Farnie has divided the suffrages of the audience, though not without great merit and in parts eminently effective. It would be perhaps difficult to say in what the new piece is wanting. Certainly not in accessories and scenes, for these are indeed most complete, and the latter exceedingly beautiful. It is stimulative entitled "Intimidat; or, the Lost Regalia." We may at once inform the reader that the Regalia means not a crown and its appendages, but is a baby, which in the course of the action is tossed from hand to hand, and ultimately restored to its owner—a series of incidents which did not prove so mirth-provoking as might have been anticipated. Regalia is the infant child of Flor-Fin, daughter of Intimidat, a guerrilla chief. The lady has clandestinely married a young French officer, Captain Tric Trac, of the Voltigeurs. The incensed Intimidat determines upon the destruction of the babe. Intimidat is personated by M. Marius, who interprets the part with great humour. He disguises his band as monks, who are ready for vengeance, for plunder, and war. Another lady, a terrible flirt, one Cachucha, is betrothed to an innkeeper, Olla Podrida; but Captain d'Ossay aims at her conquest at the same time that he thinks he has secured Flor-Fin. Olla Podrida, however, is on the watch, and is met by Flor-Fin, who gives him her baby to hold, and thus subjects him to many amusing perplexities, of which Mr. Edward Terry makes the most. He is able, notwithstanding, to contrive splendid preparations for his wedding with Cachucha, but in vain; for the coquette secretly marries a barber named Latherero. The poor innkeeper, in the end, submits cheerfully to his fate; and, in due course, the baby is produced and restored to its anxious mother. Mr. Terry displayed a world of humour in his jealousy and eccentricities, and was guilty of a number of grotesque things. Mr. Harry Cox, as the barber, gave an excellent burlesque of Figaro. The dresses were various and costly, and the musical parodies numerous and effective. Mrs. Raymond, too, dances the cachucha with novel effects, and sings a duet with her niece, both of which cause the audience to shriek with laughter. The defect of the piece is simply that the story is not interesting; but there is enough of extravagance in it for a dozen grotesque dramas. The getting-up is altogether brilliant, picturesque, and tasteful. With further acquaintance, the dramatic action may be better understood by the audience than on the first night; and the whole, which is well calculated to please, may become highly popular. There is no doubt that the new bouffonnerie musicale is full of clever things, and admirably placed on the boards.

A meeting was held in Pall-mall on Monday, at which a number of gentlemen interested in the establishment of a theatre at Stratford-on-Avon, in memory of Shakspeare, formed themselves into a general committee for the purpose of making arrangements for the forthcoming morning performance at Drury Lane Theatre on the 23rd inst.

Mr. Barry Sullivan has been presented by his Liverpool admirers with a handsome testimonial, consisting of a silver punch-bowl and a pair of silver pitchers.

At the Board of Trade inquiry at Liverpool, yesterday week, into the abandonment of the Annie Kimball, Captain Wood, the Court found that there was nothing to justify the abandonment of the ship on Jan. 13, and his certificate was, therefore, suspended for twelve months.

A fancy-dress ball, under the auspices of the St. Andrew's Boat Club, took place yesterday week in the Music Hall, George-street, Edinburgh. About 450 of the leading nobility and gentry of the city and district were present. The costumes were of the most varied and gorgeous descriptions.



## ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

## THE METHOD OF DISCOVERY IN COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.

Professor H. G. Seeley, F.R.S. and G.S., gave the first of a course of five lectures on the Fossil Forms of Flying Animals on Thursday week. He began by describing, with the help of a diagram, the *Pterodactylus longirostris*, discovered in the lithographic slate, and made known in 1784 by Collini, who thought it was a fish. Cuvier regarded it as a reptile; De Blainville placed it between birds and reptiles; Sumner gave it a position between birds and mammals; and other naturalists associated it with lizards or with crocodiles. This difference of opinion was attributed to the different ideas of method in discovering the affinities of animals held by the several writers. Cuvier's doctrine of the correlation of parts in an animal was examined and explained from his own point of view, and shown to be inapplicable to the interpretation of fossil animals which did not belong to existing ordinal groups. The Professor then considered the variations of plan which a skeleton may present; and adduced reasons for thinking that birds may part with every bone of the fore-limb without ceasing to be birds; and hence argued, that if the fore-limbs were applied to the ground, or adapted for swimming, the animal so modified would still be a bird. He urged that the hind-limbs might be similarly lost; and that the vertebrae and skull in some examples of the class, such as *Ichthyornis*, lose their distinctive avian characters, so that an animal might no longer be recognised for a bird by the form or proportion of a single bone. Discussing the value of the soft organs, he found reasons for relying upon the form of the brain in a bird, as shown in the brain-case, as indicative of the true nature of the animal; and he argued from the conditions of the respiratory organs in birds, that when prolonged into the bones, the air-cells are distinctive of the avian class. The chameleon was shown to be a reptile with a sacculated lung, but differing from a bird in every way. The lecturer found that the form and proportion of all the parts of a pterodactyle's brain were identical with those of a bird's brain; and that the pneumatic foramina which occur in nearly all the bones of pterodactyles were situated in the same positions as in birds. He then discussed the origin of the pneumatic character of bones in vertebrates, and concluded that they indicated in pterodactyles lungs formed on the avian plan. Thus in vital structures, the pterodactyle seemed to be essentially a bird, though these organs were associated with teeth in the jaws, quadruped motion, few vertebrae in the neck, and one finger greatly elongated.

## TIDES AND THE TIDE-CALCULATING MACHINE.

Sir William Thomson, D.C.L., F.R.S., President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, began his discourse at the Friday evening meeting on the 9th inst., by referring to the observation of the tides by the ancients. Julius Caesar, speaking of the night following the fourth day after his first landing in Britain, says:—"That night it happened to be full moon, which day was accustomed to give the greatest risings of water in the ocean, though our people did not know it." So, though a storm was raging at the time, nothing was done to secure the transports left high and dry on the beach, while he was fighting the Britons; and the water rose so high in the night as to damage them seriously. Strabo, quoting Posidonius, says that, "soon after moonrise the sea begins to swell up and flow over the earth, till the moon reaches mid-heaven. As she descends thence the sea recedes till about moonset, when the water is lowest. It then rises again, as the moon sinks to mid-heaven under the earth, then recedes again until about moonrise, when the water is again at its lowest, and again begins to rise;" and so on. Besides this daily circuit of the sea, Posidonius spoke of a regular monthly course, and of an annual course, reported by the Gaditani, his description being, in fact, a fairly accurate account of what is observed at the present day at Cadiz, the locality whence he derived his information. In commenting on these statements, Sir William said that the mere mention of these courses indicated that the daily rise and fall of the sea are related to the sun as well as to the moon. Galileo criticised Kepler for assuming that the motions of the water depend upon the moon; but Kepler was proved to be right. According to Newton's theory, the moon's and sun's attractions are the tide-generating force. After commenting on this, Sir William fully explained and illustrated by models and diagrams the phenomena of the tides, and pointed out that there are two distinct ways by which the sun, but only one way by which the moon, produces motions of water on the earth—the sun by his heat and attraction, the moon by her attraction only. He also explained how regular daily and annual variations in the sea-level are produced by the sun's heat, and diurnal and semi-diurnal and annual and semi-annual changes of level produced by the sun's attraction. In conclusion, after stating that theory is utterly weak to calculate tides beforehand, Sir William exhibited an improved form of self-registering tide-gauge, which shows the height of the tide at every moment for the whole time the instrument is in action, together with a roll of paper illustrating the working of the tide-gauge at Liverpool. He then adverted to the tide-calculating machine, an important instrument invented to utilise the results of the tide-gauge. In preparing the results for this apparatus there is a process of harmonic analysis by which the complicated action derived from the tide-gauge is analysed into its several constituents, each representing what is called a simple harmonic motion. This harmonic analysis, when it is worked out, becomes, as it were, a piece of scientific book-keeping, and any number of tide-tables may be constructed according to proper summations of averages. This, though an exceedingly simple, is a very laborious process; but by the tide-calculating machine tide-tables may be calculated beforehand for any port in three or four hours of mechanical working. The result shows not merely the times and height of high water, but also the height of the water at every moment of time, day and night, for the year. By the use of this machine the labour of the hydrographic department of the Admiralty would be enormously diminished. Dr. William Spottiswoode, the honorary secretary and vice-president, was in the chair.

## ASSYRIAN DISCOVERIES.

Mr. George Smith, of the department of Oriental antiquities in the British Museum, began a course of three lectures on Assyrian History on Saturday last. In his introductory remarks he stated that, although the Assyrian cuneiform inscriptions recently discovered were so fragmentary and imperfect that a connected narrative could not be formed from them, yet they were sufficient to disprove the fables of Ctesias and the succeeding Greek writers. This imperfection, he said, is not due to the records themselves, but to our not having recovered half of them. The rest are still buried, and might be obtained with little risk or expense. That Assyria and Babylonia were colonised by Semitic nations Mr. Smith considered highly probable, by the evidence of race and language; and he conjectured that beneath the mounds of the old Babylonian capitals lie records which might carry back the limits of known history perhaps two thousand years. After noticing the four eras probably adopted by Babylonians in prehistoric times—the Creation, the Flood, the Tower of

Babel, and the reign of Izdubar or Nimrod—and referring to early traditions of the Creation in the Euphrates Valley, including the fragments of Berosus, the lecturer quoted the opening lines of an Assyrian account which he had recently found, closely resembling that of the Book of Genesis, giving a description of the gradual formation of the heavens and the earth out of chaos and closing with the creation of man. The reign of Sargon, King of Akkad, about 1600 B.C., was then commented on, an extract being given of the early records narrating his exposure by his mother on the river in a cradle of rushes coated with bitumen, and his preservation and training by Akki, the waterman. This story, Mr. Smith thinks, was probably fictitious, and derived from the history of Moses, who lived about the same time. After expressing his opinion that the colonisation of Assyria by Babylonians took place about 2000 B.C., and alluding to the gradual development of the colony into a powerful civilised empire, Mr. Smith gave a sketch of its history and conquests till its decline, after the death of its great ruler, Tiglath Pileser. Assyria did not regain its power until after the disruption of the empire of Solomon. The relations of Assyria with the Israelites and its following history will be narrated in the second lecture, to be given to-day.

## GLACIAL AND TIDAL EROSION.

Professor P. M. Duncan, F.R.S., in his second lecture on Physical Geography, on Tuesday last, resumed the consideration of the relation of the different agents of denudation to climate. The modern analogues of the boulder-clay, he said, were to be sought in the results of glacier wear and tear in Spitzbergen and Greenland—places where a fauna and a flora exist in the neighbourhood of the everlasting ice. He then noticed the limit of the distribution of the angular and scratched boulders termed "erratics," and commented on the relation of their denudation and removal to the existing physical geography of the countries within the Arctic circle. The contemporaneous extension of the glaciers of the great chains of the European, Asiatic, and American continents, and the resulting denudation, were explained, and also the subsequent or antecedent glacialisation of the southern hemisphere. The termination of this glacial period was illustrated by reference to the physical geography and geology of Snowdon, its drift, and old glaciers, and the beginning of the denuding power of great bodies of running water was also noticed. Finally, the connection between the upheaval of the Sahara tract, and the retirement of the Alpine glaciers, was said to have finished the series of years during which ice in movement reigned supreme. The causes of the severity of the glacial period were then discussed; and, after noticing the small effect of great eccentricity, credit was given rather to geographical changes in level and deflections of warm currents than to the presence of an ice-cap; and a number of objections were raised against the theory respecting this ice-cap and its inevitable effects upon the mass of the sea. Marine denudation was next considered—its absence in the deep sea, and its effects on coast-lines and in shallow seas. After describing the nature of cliffs, the causes of the denuding power of the sea were discussed, followed by an explanation of the general adaptation of the surface of the sea to that of the spheroid. The nature of wind-waves and tides were next considered in detail. The action of tide-waves, of co-tidal lines, and the influence of the sun and moon, were described, preparatory to an explanation of the friction of tides on the earth as a denuding agent and as a retarding agent. Professor Duncan said that the evidences of tidal action in the early history of the globe necessitate the belief in the great antiquity of the moon. The gradual break-power of the westerly lunar current, producing lengthening of the day, was suggested—to be compensated for by the general contraction of the globe, and its increased rigidity and diminished land-tide.

Professor Ramsay will, on Friday evening next, April 23, give a discourse on the Pre-Miocene Alps, and their subsequent Waste and Degradation.

At Monday night's meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, papers by Mr. John Forrest describing a journey across Western Australia, by the late Rev. Charles New on the route from Pangani to Mombasa, and by Mr. Kemp on Col. Gordon's expedition in the Upper Nile country, were read.

There was a discussion on Tuesday night at a meeting of the African section of the Society of Arts on the mode of dealing with the Kafirs. Mr. J. Bergtheil introduced the subject with a paper on tribal titles and Kafir law, in the course of which he expressed an opinion that the removal of Langalibalele was necessary, and set forth a scheme for the government of the natives of South Africa.

Under the presidency of Mr. S. Morley, M.P., the first of a series of conferences on questions of capital and labour was held on Tuesday at the Artisans' Institute. The subject discussed was whether the principles of justice can be applied to prices, wages, and hours. It was initiated by Mr. Solly, and a resolution in the affirmative was passed.

Sir William Codrington presided, yesterday week, at the United Service Institution, over a meeting at which the subject of recruiting and the general condition of the Army was discussed. The proceedings were opened by Captain Hime, who read a summary of his prize essay on the best mode of obtaining recruits and a reserve for the Army. Several distinguished officers and other gentlemen took part in the discussion which followed, after which the debate was adjourned to Monday. The general opinion expressed on short service was that it had been a failure, and that a different term of enlistment was required for home and foreign service. Several speakers opposed conscription, and various suggestions were thrown out for strengthening the reserves. Captain Hime, in replying, said he did not want a conscription now, but believed it to be inevitable.

At a meeting of the London Anthropological Society, yesterday week—Dr. Charnock, F.S.A., president, in the chair—Mr. C. O. Groom Napier, F.G.S., read a paper entitled "The Lost Tribes of Israel—Where are They?" and proceeded to inquire into the various theories put forth to identify the long-lost tribes with existing nations. After showing the merits and demerits of each theory, he followed the line of argument adopted by Wilson, Carpenter, Hime, and other supporters of the "identification," and sought to prove that the British Celts were Israelites who had come to this country with the Phenicians by sea, and that the Angles and Saxons were descended from the Getae and Massagetae, who were, in fact, the Ten Tribes carried into captivity by the Assyrians, and that consequently the greater part of the English-speaking populations of the world were Israelites, and as such entitled to the preponderance which they are supposed to enjoy. An animated discussion followed.

On Monday the Bucks Chamber of Agriculture unanimously adopted a resolution in favour of the Duke of Richmond's Agricultural Holdings Bill.

## THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AT VENICE.

The arrival of his Imperial Majesty Francis Joseph at Venice, on Monday, the 5th inst., to visit King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, was an occasion of the highest and rarest political interest. Some comments upon this gratifying event were made in our leading article of last week. An illustration now given, from a sketch by our Special Artist, shows the Emperor and the King embarking on the Grand Canal at the railway station, when the Emperor had arrived by the railway from Treviso and Udine, towns at the head of the Adriatic towards the frontier of his own dominions. King Victor Emmanuel, in full uniform, with all his orders, went to the railway station to meet the Emperor. He was accompanied by the Crown Prince Humbert, Prince Amadeus, the Duke of Aosta, Prince Tommaso, Duke of Genoa—the last in the uniform of the Royal Italian navy—Countess Wimpfen, consort of the Austrian Ambassador in Paris, the Prefect of Venice, Commendatore Mayr, and the Syndic, Signor Fornoni. His Majesty was surrounded by a brilliant staff. At eleven precisely the booming of cannon gave note that the Imperial train had reached Mestre, the last station on the mainland, and had entered the causeway of the lagoons. The Italian military band struck up with tremendous effect the Austrian march, "God Preserve the Emperor." After a few minutes the Emperor's train, splendidly decorated with the banners of the two nations, drew up at the Venice platform. The King of Italy allowed the first few carriages to pass, till, seeing the Imperial saloon-carriage, he made three steps forward, and the next moment he literally received the Kaiser in his arms. The two Sovereigns kissed each other; and the Emperor then warmly greeted the Royal Princes and Countess Wimpfen.

The illustrious host and guest, with their attendants, proceeded to the place of embarkation. Here the King and the Emperor entered the Royal gondola, which was followed by twelve others belonging to the Court, by those of the Municipality, and by a multitude of sumptuous barges belonging to the nobility and corporations of Venice, rich in gold and embroidered flags, and rowed by gondoliers in gorgeous mediæval and fancy dresses. These first-mentioned barges, nearest to the gondola in which the Monarchs sat, formed a circle around them. They were long, narrow barges, with raised prow, bearing a couch on which reclined an official with a trumpet, and they were propelled by eight oarsmen, the steersman standing on a raised platform at the stern. The costumes harmonised with the colour of the craft, and the oars also were painted to match. The most prominent of these twelve barges is worth a brief special description. It was of blue and silver, with the stern curled up like a tropical leaf, and a massive prow with serrated horns surmounted by a graceful perch, on which hovered a huge butterfly with silver body and gauze wings. Behind this, silvered palm-leaves with gorgeous-coloured fringes formed an awning over the official couch, which was festooned with blue draperies trailing far behind. The oarsmen were dressed in blue slashed with white. Another barge was lilac, another purple and orange, another green and red, and various combinations were to be seen. One barge was entirely covered with silver. On the prow was a winged dragon, and high scrollwork at the stern. The oarsmen were in costumes of silver cloth, with blue sleeves. The King and the Emperor were rowed by four gondoliers in blue velvet jackets and red breeches. The vessel was decorated simply in blue and silver. Behind the seat was a cushion bearing a silver crown. The procession was a mile in length, filling the entire canal with a moving mass. Among the curiosities of this unique procession was an eight-oared boat from the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer, manned by Chinamen in white dresses. As the forest of flags swept past the Dogana and halted in front of the Royal Palace, salutes were fired from the ships in the harbour; the two Peninsular steamers were manned with coolies, and the lagoon was black with craft, between the ranks of which the Royal gondola shot up to the carpeted steps, and the two Monarchs landed, amid hearty cheers.

The Imperial and Royal party alighted at the Piazza of St. Mark. Their Majesties walked twice round the square, reviewing the troops assembled there under arms and receiving military honours, the band again playing the Austrian national air. After this review the soldiers marched past the two Sovereigns, who then went into the palace, where they were received by the Italian Ministers and public authorities. In response to repeated cheering from the people their Majesties appeared on the balcony, the King standing on the right of the Emperor.

Cardinal Trevisanato, the Patriarch of Venice, paid a visit in the afternoon, first to King Victor Emmanuel and afterwards to the Emperor Francis Joseph. A family dinner was given, at which only the King, the Princess Marguerite, the Royal Princes, and the Emperor were present. In the evening the Imperial visitor was entertained at a grand ball. The town was magnificently illuminated. Both the Monarchs were visibly satisfied at the meeting, and the Emperor Francis Joseph expressed himself highly pleased with his reception. The day was marked by a succession of brilliant scenes, reminding one of the glorious period of the history of Venice in the fifteenth century. Some more illustrations will appear in our next.

Mr. Peter Paul M'Swiney, Lord Mayor of Dublin, is announced as a Home Rule candidate for the representation of Kilkenny city, where there is a vacancy through the death of Sir John Gray.

Lord Derby and Sir Stafford Northcote received, last Saturday, a deputation of sugar importers and refiners, who waited upon them for the purpose of urging the Government to endeavour to induce France, Belgium, and Holland to abandon the system of granting bounties for the export of sugar. Lord Derby, in reply, expressed his concurrence with the views of the deputation; and, while pointing out the difficulty of influencing foreign countries in the matter, promised that the Government would do what they could. Sir Stafford Northcote spoke in a similar sense.

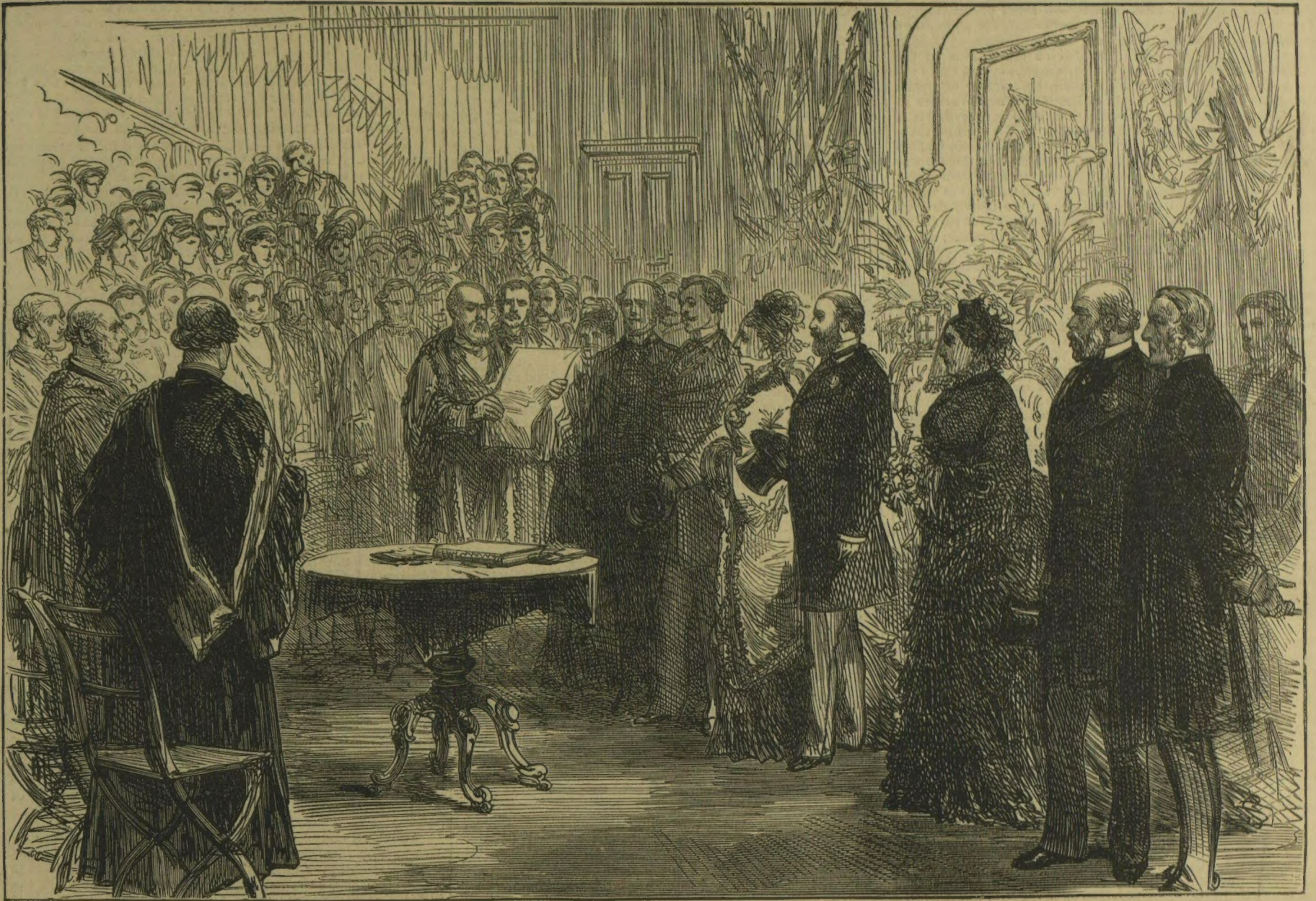
The anniversary meeting of those interested in the restoration of the nave of Bristol Cathedral was held on the 1st inst. Divine service was held in the choir, and a sermon was preached by the Bishop of St. Davids. Afterwards there was a public luncheon, presided over by the Mayor of Bristol, Mr. C. J. Thomas, who is a Unitarian. From the report presented by the hon. secretary, Mr. W. K. Wait, M.P., it appeared that during the eight years over which the work extended a sum of £41,200 had been contributed; and the committee expressed a belief that if £3000 were at once placed at their disposal the nave might be connected with the remainder of the cathedral and made available for Divine service before the next anniversary. The report of Mr. Street, the architect, stated that the works to be completed before the nave could be used were the western window and gable, the interior of the western towers, the floors, doors, and the fittings, carvings, and sculpture. Subscriptions amounting to upwards of £2000 were announced at the luncheon by Mr. Wait. The High Sheriff of the city, Mr. Hill, and his brother have announced that they will bear the cost of a new stained window in the baptistry.



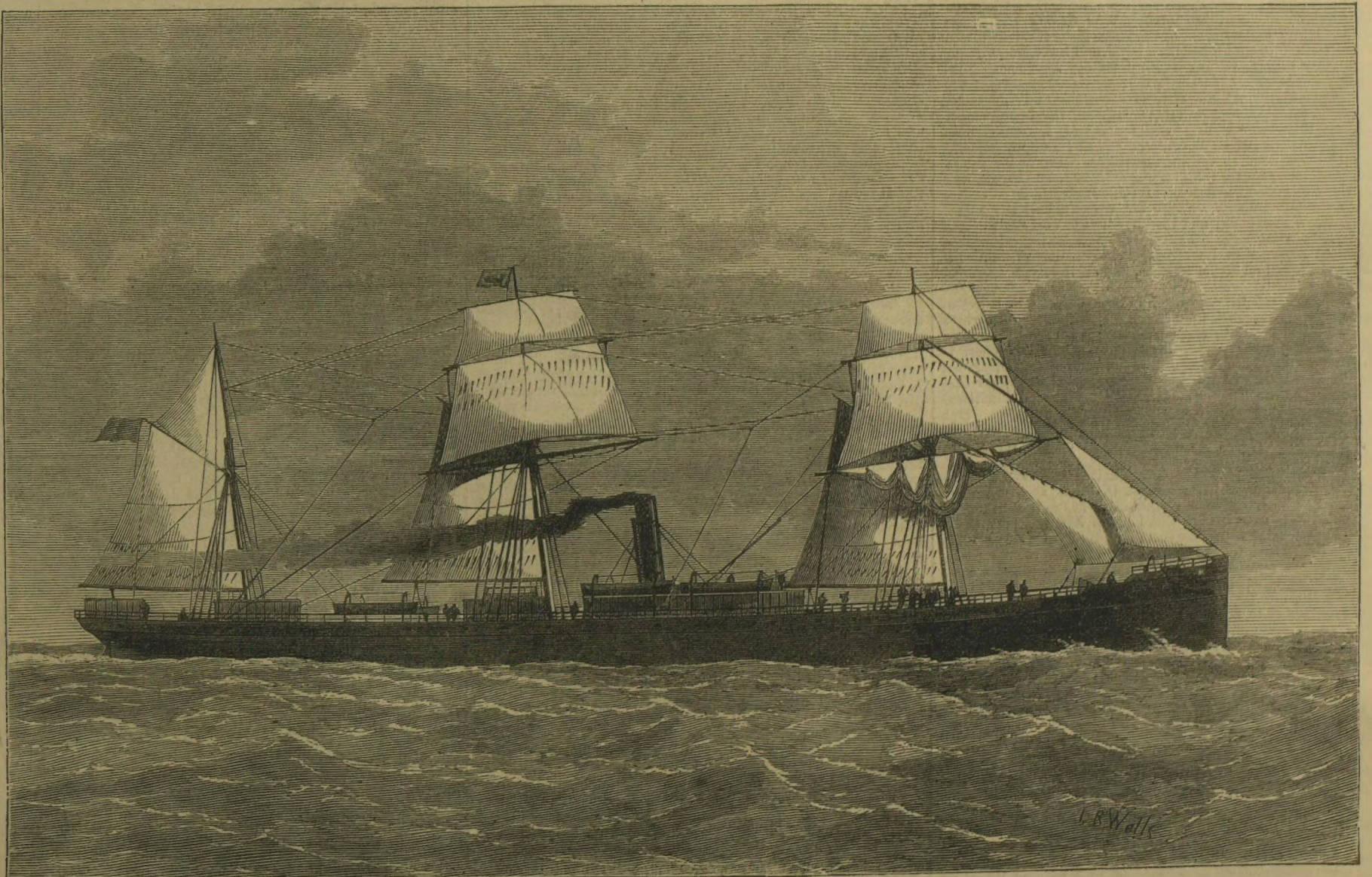


THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AND THE KING OF ITALY AT VENICE: THEIR MAJESTIES EMBARKING AT THE RAILWAY STATION FOR THE CITY.  
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.





THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES OPENING MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL.



THE STEAMER LAKE CHAMPLAIN.



## MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL.

The Prince and Princess of Wales honoured the proceedings at the opening of the new buildings of the Merchant Taylors' School, Charterhouse-square, on Tuesday week. Besides the Prince and Princess, were present the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Teck and Princess Mary of Cambridge, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Verulam, and the Bishops of London and Rochester. A crowd assembled at the outside of the Smithfield Meat Market, and in Charterhouse-square up to the gates of the school. The yard contained a number of pupils and their friends, and friends of the Master and Wardens of the Court. Inside the hall seats had been arranged, which were filled with ladies. At the entrance to the corridor leading to the lecture theatre the band of the Coldstream Guards was stationed, under Mr. Frederick Godfrey. The theatre was prettily decorated. Above the chairs set apart for their Royal Highnesses was an engraving of the school, with many choice plants, bannerets, and flags. The ladies were mostly dressed in light spring costume. While waiting the Royal party the band of the Royal Engineers played a selection of music, under the direction of their leader, Herr Sauerthal.

At half past one the Duke of Cambridge entered the theatre with Princess Mary, and was immediately followed by the Duke of Teck with Lady Caroline Cust. Within a few minutes of their arrival the National Anthem was heard, and the Princess of Wales, leaning on the arm of the Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company (Mr. J. Coysgarne Sim), entered the hall, followed by the Prince of Wales. On taking their seats they were loudly applauded. The Princess wore a llama polonaise and a mulberry-coloured hat with light blue feather.

After a few introductory remarks from the Master, a statement was read by Mr. Faithfull, clerk to the company, relative to the history and progress of the school. It was founded more than three centuries ago by the Master, the Wardens, and the Court of Assistants of the company. It was originally intended to accommodate 250 boys; but the building in which they were assembled would hold upwards of double that number. The want of a playground had been met by the addition of a large piece of land which had been adapted for this purpose. The education, which, for the most part, had formerly been classical, had been reorganised, and a branch had been established in which the boys would have the opportunity of studying modern languages, science, and other branches of education which would fit them for the business duties of life. Many great and distinguished men had received their first education in the school, amongst whom five stood pre-eminent—viz., Bishop Andrew, Bishop Juxon, Bishop Wren-Lord Clive, and last, but not least, Edmund Spenser, the author of "The Faerie Queen," which last fact had only been discovered during the past year by means of researches amongst some historical State papers.

An address, which was not read, was then presented to the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness, who was very warmly received, returned thanks for the address, and expressed, on the part of the Princess and himself, the pleasure they had in being there and taking part in the proceedings. He then declared the Merchant Taylors' School open.

The chief monitor of the school recited a short Latin ode to the Prince and Princess of Wales commemorative of the occasion. The Archbishop of Canterbury offered prayer and pronounced the benediction. The company repaired to the assembly-hall, where luncheon was served. The Master occupied the chair, having upon his right hand the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Teck, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, and on his left the Princess of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke of Teck.

## THE STEAMER LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

The fine new iron screw-steamer Lake Champlain is the first of the Beaver line of steamers intended to run between Liverpool, Quebec, and Montreal during the season when the navigation of the St. Lawrence is open, and during the winter between Liverpool and some open American port.

The Lake Champlain has been built and her engines made by the London and Glasgow Engineering and Iron Ship-building Company, at Govan, near Glasgow. Her owners are the Canada Shipping Company, of Montreal and Liverpool. She hails from Montreal, and is, we believe, the first steamer built on the Clyde sailing under the new Dominion flag. She is 321 ft. long, 35 ft. beam, and has 26 ft. depth of hold from tonnage deck to ceiling amidships, with a burden of 2207 tons gross register. She is classed 100 A at Lloyd's, but has been built to a specification of the owners, much in excess of Lloyd's requirements. There are three decks, the upper deck being a spar-deck; and the lofty 'tween-decks is suitable for carrying emigrants. The ship is barque-rigged; she is fitted with patent steam steering-gear, with steam windlass for raising anchors, four steam winches, and all the latest improvements.

The object of the owners has been to provide a vessel specially adapted for the Canadian trade, and strong enough to withstand the roughest storms of the Atlantic. The Lake Champlain is, therefore, specially strengthened where there is the slightest chance of her coming in contact with the ice. On her official trial-trip from Greenock she ran the measured distance between the Cloch and Cumbrae lighthouses, a distance of 13,666 knots, within less than seventy-one minutes. Her engines, which are of 250-horse power nominal, were found to work satisfactorily, and the average speed of the vessel was 11½ knots.

The Canada Shipping Company (Limited) is almost entirely a Canadian enterprise. The success that has attended their line of fine iron Clyde-built clipper-ships has induced them to add steamers to their fleet. The London and Glasgow Company, on the 22nd ult., launched a sister-ship to the Lake Champlain, named the Lake Nepigon, for the same owners, and she is now approaching completion; they have also a third boat on hand, to be named the Lake Megantic. In view of the immense resources of Canada, now being so rapidly developed, it is satisfactory to see a corresponding degree of Canadian enterprise competing for a share of the ocean traffic; and every Canadian or friend of the British American Empire must join in our wish for success to the Beaver line of steamers.

The bazaar for the Manchester Children's Hospital closed last Saturday, the total receipts being £21,549 12s. 1½d., an unprecedented result in the history of bazaars.

The 5th Dragoon Guards, stationed at Dublin, gave a ball, on Thursday week, in the Exhibition Palace. About 800 ladies and gentlemen were present.

A balance-sheet has been issued setting forth the assets and liabilities of the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt in respect of savings banks established under the Act of Geo. IV., c. 92; and showing the securities held by the said Commissioners on account of such savings banks on Nov. 20, 1874. The total amount due to trustees on that date was £41,826,438. The different securities amounted to £38,462,982, showing a deficiency of £3,363,456.

## THE MAGAZINES.

Mr. Black has brought the *bête noire* of his story home, and the readers of the *Cornhill* have ample room for speculation as to the manner in which the problem of eliminating him is to be worked out. The harder problem—how the betrothal of the charming Wenna with him ever came about—will probably remain insoluble, but does not check our sympathy for a heroine in a predicament. We may probably attribute to the same hand "The Marriage of Moira Fergus," which promises to prove a very pretty idyl of Hebridean life. There is deep feeling in the portrait of Moira, and genuine humour in that of the worthy but peppery Presbyterian clergyman. The great Italian artist, Luca Signorelli, is the subject of a very appreciative paper; and Mr. Leslie Stephen's criticism of Hazlitt is among the best he has written. As a critic and reasoner, Hazlitt is ably characterised in a line: "He could argue very ingeniously, but his logic was the slave, not the ruler, of his emotions." Perhaps the singular force of his style is hardly enough recognised, or his remarkable power of gaining the confidence of his readers by the frankness of his self-revelations. "The Cost of Living" is an able plea in mitigation of complaints on this score. It is clearly shown that the increased price of many articles of consumption is largely balanced by corresponding reductions in others; at the same time, it is admitted that the advantages of the latter are chiefly reaped by those who need them least, while men of moderate incomes or large families are, on the whole, sufferers.

*Macmillan* has several papers of real but moderate interest. The most generally read will probably be the sequel of "Alkamah's Cave," which is turning out an exceedingly good story. Mr. Freeman contributes a valuable notice of the excavations recently made at Rome by Mr. Parker and the Cavalier Rosa. He expresses a high sense of the value of Mr. Parker's researches, while disputing his identifications; and points out that the walls recently discovered beneath the soil of the Coliseum must have belonged to substructures below the level of the arena. Mr. Hullah's reminiscences of Sir Arthur Helps confirm prevalent impressions respecting him, without contributing any material additions to our knowledge. Mr. Mahaffy records his gratification with the erudite jollity of the Leyden tercentenary festival; and Principal Shairp endeavours, not quite unsuccessfully, to reconcile Keble's criticism on Milton with a due sense of the greatness of the poet.

"Alice Lorraine" is concluded, in *Blackwood*, in a manner to satisfy the curious reader who has not forgotten the mystery of the magician's treasure in the introductory chapters. We must not raise the veil, but will merely say that the conclusion is among the most brilliant parts of the story. Very interesting, also, is a conversation on the money value of works of art among the ancients, the first of a series of papers entitled "In a Studio," which we shall hardly err in attributing to the occupant of one of the most famous of Roman ateliers. The present instalment of "The Abode of Snow" treats of Cashmere, of which country a most interesting description is given. The review of Mr. Kinglake's volume on Inkerman is chiefly remarkable for an endeavour to show that the historian's narrative is less unfavourable to our French allies than usually assumed.

Readers of *Fraser* will be first startled by the unwonted phenomenon of woodcut illustrations, and afterwards by the discovery they will not be long in making of the connection of these with the style of Mr. Carlyle. It is indeed gratifying to find the veteran author in such force upon a subject of so much interest to him as the iconography of John Knox, a soul as kindred to his own as any history has to show. The substance of the paper is a protest against the accepted portraits of Knox as spurious, and the vindication of the genuineness of that known as the Somerville portrait, which there really seem some grounds for considering as a copy of a picture by Porbus, a Flemish artist, who undoubtedly visited Scotland in 1565, and painted Buchanan in that year. This evidence is but slight, but we must concur with Mr. Carlyle in deeming the internal testimony entirely in his favour. The next essay in point of interest is that on "the secret papers of the Empire," captured after the Emperor's downfall. These documents contain few revelations of a very sensational nature, but evidence enough of the incapacity, helplessness, and want of principle which characterised the decrepitude of the Imperial system. Mr. R. J. King contributes an admirable description of Cleveland, and an anonymous author writes picturesquely on Tetuan. The most remarkable particulars instanced by him relate to the Moorish Jews, who, he says, consist of three sections; the remains of a very ancient immigration in the highlands of the interior; the Barbary Jews, now dying out from the degeneracy induced by premature marriage; and the descendants of the Jews expelled from Spain, a race of great intelligence and promise. Socialism and co-operation are the subjects of two articles—one a very interesting review of Nordhoff's work on the communities of the United States; the other an account of three co-operative experiments in England, one flourishing at this moment, the second a failure, the third a brilliant success until shipwrecked by its patron's losses at play.

The drift of Professor Clifford's "First and Last Catastrophe," in the *Fortnightly*, seems to be to contend that there is no scientific proof of the origination of matter at any period in time. The abstruse subject is not rendered very clear. Mr. Thornton is easier to follow in his protest against the loose employment of the term "wealth" by writers on political economy. It ought, he thinks, to be restricted to material possessions. Mr. Lepel Griffin, known as one of the most distinguished of "competition wallahs," ably refutes some of the stock objections to the competitive system of selection for the Indian civil service. He acknowledges, however, that many of the candidates recently appointed are too exclusively men of letters, and proposes to cure this defect by a course of study in a special college at Oxford or Cambridge. We fear that neither their legal nor their Oriental studies would prosper in either locality. The proposed college should be in London; and, notwithstanding Mr. Griffin's objections, we think that the limit of age might be extended with advantage. Mr. Roberts contributes a heavy indictment against the pauperising tendencies of the English poor law. Mr. Lang easily upsets Mr. Paley's paradoxes respecting the late date assigned by him to the "Iliad" and "Odyssey." The continuations of Mr. Morley's essay on Diderot and of Mr. George Meredith's "Beauchamp's Career" are as brilliant as the former instalments. Mr. Swinburne's ode on "A vision of Spring in Winter" is exquisite in diction and melody; but the substance, as so often the case with him, is too slight for the elaboration bestowed upon it.

The *Contemporary Review* is much less interesting and varied than usual, and has, indeed, only two noticeable articles: a summary of the Jesuit Maimbourg's demonstration of the Pope's fallibility out of his own mouth, and Mr. Davies's highly-appreciative essay on the writings of the late Mr. Peacock.

*Temple Bar* makes up an entertaining number with the sequel of "Leah;" another of its excellent series of studies on French literary characters, the subject this time being Beaumarchais; a very interesting essay on the late illustrious French painter, Millet, by Lady Pollock; and several lighter

articles, the best of which is that on "The Shah, and what he did not see."

The *Gentleman's Magazine* has a very well written paper on French *esprit* by M. Camille Barrère, who, however, makes no very close approach to a rigorous definition of an idea more easily apprehended than expressed. An article on American politics and a sketch of American travel are each good in their way. Mr. W. D. Adams contributes an appreciative estimate of Mr. Arnold as a critic, and Mr. Buchanan a pretty poem. "In the Ladies' Gallery" is very amusing, but the personation of the fair sex is not consistently kept up. The present instalment of "Dear Lady Disdain" contains a very clever sketch of a meeting of "The Church of the Future."

The *Transatlantic* is remarkably fortunate in its selections this month; the paper on John Brown's Virginia Campaign being of great historical interest, and that on New York Municipal Government of much immediate practical importance. The essays on John Wesley and the native races of the Pacific States are also valuable. A curious mistake is committed by reprinting one of the best known of Charles Kingsley's lyrics as a hitherto unpublished poem.

The *Month* has apologies for the Papacy on two sore points—the arrogant conduct of Gregory VII. to the Emperor of Germany, and the hostility to the institutions of modern society charged upon it by Mr. Gladstone. It is, of course, easy to vindicate Gregory or any other Pope by unreservedly accepting all his statements about himself. Mr. Froude applied the same process to Henry VIII., with equal success. The gentleman who answers Mr. Gladstone has certainly shown that Rome has not hitherto disputed the validity of the marriages of non-Catholics when accompanied by an ecclesiastical ceremony, but he has not shown that she is precluded from doing so when she finds herself strong enough; and, as regards civil marriages, he seems to yield Mr. Gladstone's point.

*Belgravia* has a striking but highly sensational budget of confessions from an imbibber of chloral, tons of which valuable but dangerous medicine are asserted to be imported from Germany, and consumed as a stimulant by the well-to-do. Mr. Sala's habitual caricature is carried to an extreme degree in his "Dr. Figaro's School." "Oxford Raffles" is amusing.

There is nothing remarkable in *Tinsley* except its serial fictions; or in *London Society* except a paper justly stigmatised by the distinguished writer whose relatives it principally concerns as "a gross breach of social decorum."

The chief articles of the *Popular Science Review* are Colour Studies with the Microscope, On Insects and Flowers, Sand Dunes and Blowing Sands, the Colorado Potato-Beetle, Scientific Aims of the Arctic Expedition, and the Disposal of the Dead.

We have also received the *Victoria Magazine*, *Argosy*, *New Monthly*, *Good Words*, *Good Things*, *Monthly Packet*, *Chambers's Journal*, *All the Year Round*, *Once a Week*, *Cassell's Magazine*, *Golden Words*, *Sunday Magazine*, *Covent-Garden Magazine*, *Public Schools Magazine*, *Expositor*, *Leisure Hour*, *Gardener's Magazine*, *Practical Magazine*, *Ixion*, *Old and New*, *Milliner and Dressmaker*, *Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*, *Young Englishwoman*, and *Myra's Journal of Dress and Fashion*.

The April number of the *British Quarterly Review* is led off by a narrative article of French history, belonging to the great conflict between the Protestant or Reforming Huguenot party and the Guise faction and Catherine de Medici in the sixteenth century; the life of Admiral Coligny is here related with much spirit. A thoughtful discourse on the intellectual vagaries of "The Higher Pantheism" comes next. It is followed by one upon the contemporary Norwegian writer of domestic fiction, Bjornson, reported to be the Scott and Burns of his native country. Livingstone's African travels and Kinglake's over-elaborated scrutiny of the Crimean campaign are discussed in the next two articles. The vexed question of Ultramontane Popery as affecting civil allegiance, and the effects of Mr. Gladstone's retirement from statesmanship, are treated in the point of view befitting an organ of the Liberal Nonconformists. There is also an investigation of the disputed authorship of a certain Scottish "Ode to the Cuckoo," whether composed by Michael Bruce or John Logan; but we cannot here record the verdict.

In the *New Quarterly*, we dare say, the most useful article is that of Mr. R. Jefferies on "Allotment Gardens," but the pleasantest is that of Mr. Banks on trout-fishing. Vivisection, of which Miss Cobbe appears as the opponent in her function of literary moralist, is coming near to be thought a great bore. Something remained to be said about Chaucer, and especially of his cheerful religious feeling, which the Rev. Dr. Leary has attempted to estimate. Mr. Robert Buchanan has his own personal reminiscences of the late Thomas Love Peacock, that last of the old-fashioned literary epicureans.

An influential public meeting was held in the Council-chamber, Salisbury, last week, for the purpose of raising funds to enable the Dean and Chapter to complete the restoration of the choir and the interior of the cathedral. The High Sheriff of the county, Mr. P. C. Phipps, presided. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that he thought it was the plain and special duty of every Churchman in the diocese to promote the restoration of the cathedral, which was the most admired of any in the country. Since the work had been set on foot he thought that something like £50,000 had been raised—£10,000 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £10,000 as a memorial to the late Bishop Hamilton, about £10,000 for restoring the chapter-house, and £20,000 in general donations and subscriptions. A statement prepared by the Dean was read by the Archdeacon of Sarum, in which the works already done, both externally and internally, were fully detailed. It was stated that, architecturally speaking, the restoration of the choir was now completed; but that the ornamental part of the work and fittings remain to be done, and that it was for this object and the restoration of the great transept that the present public appeal was made, the Dean and Chapter being without means. Earl Beauchamp had promised to give the reredos in memory of his ancestor, a former Bishop of Salisbury; Miss Chafyn Grove had undertaken to be at the expense of remodelling the organ, which would cost between £2000 and £3000; Mrs. Sidney Lear had contributed £1000 towards the new choir screen; and it was estimated that about £11,000 would be required to complete the choir and restore the great transept. After Mr. R. H. Rigdon, the treasurer, had read a statement of the finances, the Bishop moved, and Mr. Troyle Bullock seconded, a resolution to the effect that steps be immediately taken with the view of carrying out the works; a second resolution, proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Lord Nelson, being also unanimously carried, inviting subscriptions for the purpose. A list of subscriptions was read in the room amounting to between £2000 and £3000, among the donors being the Bishop of Salisbury, £100; Dean of Salisbury, £1000; Lord Radnor, £500; a lady, by the Dean of Salisbury, £300; the Hon. and Rev. Canon Gordon, £100; the Archdeacon of Sarum, £100; Lord Nelson, £100; the High Sheriff of Wilts, £100; Lord Heytesbury, £100; Sir E. Hulse, £100; Prebendary Pearson, £100.



## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

## DOWAGER LADY DUNSANY.

The Right Hon. Elizabeth, Dowager Lady Dunsany, died on the 2nd inst., at 18, Bolton-gardens, South Kensington. Her Ladyship, who was the only daughter and heiress of Lyndon Evelyn, Esq., of Keynsham Court, county of Hereford, was married Dec. 29, 1838, to Randal Edward, fifteenth Lord Dunsany, brother of the present peer, but had no children. Her husband died April 7, 1852.

## LADY SCARSDALE.

The Right Hon. Blanche, Lady Scarsdale, died at 14, Lower Berkeley-street, on the 4th inst., aged thirty-seven. Her Ladyship was second daughter of Joseph Pocklington-Senhouse, Esq., of Netherhall and Barrow House, county of Cumberland, and was married, July 3, 1856, to Alfred, present Lord Scarsdale, by whom she leaves a numerous family. Lady Scarsdale's sister is wife of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart., the member for Carlisle.

## LADY CHELMSFORD.

The Right Hon. Anna Maria Lady Chelmsford died on the 9th inst., at 7, Eaton-square. Her Ladyship was youngest daughter and coheir of William Tining, Esq., of Southampton, and niece of two very distinguished soldiers, Major Pierson, the heroic defender of Jersey, and Lieutenant-General Sir D. L. Tining-Widdington, K.C.H. She married, March 9, 1822, the eminent advocate, Sir Frederick Thesiger, who became Lord Chancellor, and was elevated to the Peerage as Lord Chelmsford in 1858. Her Ladyship leaves issue four sons—viz., Colonel the Hon. Frederic Augustus Thesiger, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen; Colonel the Hon. Charles Wemyss Thesiger; the Hon. Alfred Henry Thesiger, Q.C.; the Hon. Edward Pierson Thesiger; and three daughters—Augusta, wife of William Frederick Higgins, Esq.; Julia Selina, widow of the late Major-General Sir John Eardley Wilmot Inglis, K.C.B., who so gallantly defended Lucknow during the Indian Mutiny; and the Hon. Mary Lincoln Thesiger, still unmarried.

## COUNT BRUNNOW.

Philip Count Brunnow, better known as Baron Brunnow, who was for many years Ambassador at our Court, died, on Sunday, at his residence at Darmstadt, in the eighty-first year of his age. He entered the Russian diplomatic service in 1818, at the time of the congress of Aix-la-Chapelle. Count Capo d'Istria formed a high opinion of his abilities, and intrusted to him and Counsellor Sturdza the task of compiling a civil code for the Government of the Rouman population of Bessarabia, then a recent conquest. Count Nesselrode also entertained the highest opinion of his talents, and showed his confidence by placing him at the head of his own Chancellerie. He assisted as secretary to the Embassy at the congresses of Tropeau, Layback, and Verona. The answer of the Russian Cabinet to the Anglo-French remonstrance at the Treaty of Unkiar-Skelessi, in 1832, has been attributed to Count Brunnow. In 1840 he came over to this country to settle the Belgian question, Baron Nieuman representing Austria. On his Excellency Count Pozzi di Borgo resigning his post as Russian Ambassador at the Court of St. James's he was succeeded by Baron Brunnow as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, which post he filled up to 1854. He was instrumental in carrying out the treaty of July 15, 1840, on the Eastern question, which united England, Russia, Prussia, and Austria against France. He continued to preserve the most friendly relations between Russia and England till shortly before the diplomatic complications which preceded the Crimean War, when he quitted England for Berlin. He returned to England in 1857 as Ambassador, and only relinquished that high diplomatic post in July last. On leaving England he went to his own residence at Darmstadt, where he had since remained in the closest retirement. A few years ago, in recognition of his diplomatic services, he was created a Count of the Russian empire by the Emperor Alexander, and previously he had been decorated with several orders of knighthood. Countess Brunnow, who had rendered herself so popular in society by carrying out the hospitalities of the Russian Embassy, predeceased the Count twelve months.

## VICE-ADMIRAL R. S. HEWLETT.

Vice-Admiral Richard Strode Hewlett, C.B., whose death is announced, was son of John Valentine Hewlett, Esq., of Newport, Devon, by Admonition, his wife, daughter of Richard Strode, Esq., of Newham Park and Botesford. He entered the Royal Navy in 1821, and was nearly forty years employed at sea. Having seen some active service on the coast of Syria and at the blockade of Alexandria, he was successively, on the North American and West Indian stations and at Portsmouth, whence he proceeded with the fleet to the Baltic, and served, in the Edinburgh, with such activity as to be highly commended by Admiral Napier. He became Vice-Admiral in 1873.

## SIR JOHN GRAY, M.P.

Sir John Gray, Knt., J.P. for the city of Dublin, and since 1865 M.P. for Kilkenny, died, at Bath, on the 9th inst. He was born in 1815, at Claremorris, in the county of Mayo, the third son of John Gray, Esq., of that place, by Elizabeth, his wife, only daughter of George Wilson, Esq. Having matriculated at Trinity College, Dublin, he adopted the medical profession; and, becoming in due course M.D., commenced practice in Dublin. Soon after, however, he gave up medicine for journalism, and for the last five-and-thirty years devoted himself with ability and energy to the political events of his time, whether as editor and proprietor of the *Freeman's Journal* or as a staunch Repealer by the side of O'Connell, whose imprisonment in Richmond Bridewell he shared in 1843. He was, besides, one of the most strenuous advocates of tenant-right, and originated the movement which led to Mr. Gladstone's measure for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. As a member of the Corporation, he conferred on Dublin an inestimable boon. It was through his untiring zeal and perseverance that an abundant and excellent water supply has been brought to that city, "in special recognition of which" the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland conferred upon him the honour of knighthood, in 1863, and a patent of arms was at the same time granted in which the word "Vartry" was appropriately introduced. The Vartry Waterworks are an abiding and noble monument to the memory of Sir John Gray. He married, in 1839, Anne, daughter of James Dwyer, Esq., of Limerick, and leaves three sons and two daughters. One of his brothers, Wilson Gray, also a man of considerable attainments, is now a Judge in New Zealand, and one of his sisters was married to Mr. McCullagh Torrens, M.P.

## THE HON. H. T. STANLEY.

The Hon. Henry Thomas Stanley, of Stanley Hall, near Preston, Lancashire, next brother of the late Earl of Derby, died at Brighton on the 2nd inst., aged seventy-two. The second son of the thirteenth Earl by Charlotte Margaret, daughter of the late Rev. Geoffrey Hornby, he was born in March, 1803, was educated at Eton, and served for a few years in the Scots Fusilier Guards. He was a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Lancashire, and held a seat in two Parliaments—namely, from 1832 to 1837, in the old Whig interest, as M.P. for Preston. Mr. Stanley married, in 1835, Anne, daughter of Mr. Richard Woolhouse, by whom he has left a family.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

T. MATIER, Dr. G. T. Billiter, H. Tomlinson, E. L. A. S. A. Wood, M. Whittington, W. F. Mapleson, H. M. Ross, B. Hook, W. P. Welsh, C. E. Akers, J. Kell, J. G. Bas, W. F. M. W. C. D. Smith, J. H. Laving, H. Drummond, J. S. Maridunum, W. V. G. D. Ellen, A. J. Collins, and Others.—You are all in error. Problem No. 1624 cannot be solved by any of the methods suggested.

CLIVE CHURCH.—It was, doubtless, a slip of the pen.

G. H. V.—We do not agree with your estimate of Problem No. 1624. On the contrary, we consider it an extremely difficult two-move position, from the number of apparently-feasible moves which White has at his disposal. A large number of correspondents, usually accurate, have failed to hit upon the correct solution.

H. R. VINCENT.—Doubtless a mistake on our part.

H. STEVENSON.—Problem No. 1623 cannot be solved by 1. Q to Q 5th.

A. DE R. MEARES.—Quite correct.

W. COOK.—Accept our best thanks for the game and good wishes.

T. COATES.—The position is not forgotten. As a rule, however, we give a preference to problems in two or three moves to four-movers.

H. T.—1. The club in question will be of no use to you, as it will be open only in the evenings. 2. Apply to the Hon. Sec., St. George's Chess Club, 20, King-street, St. James's, W.

J. P. T.—The problem shall be examined. It seems a very neat position.

PROBLEM No. 1623.—Additional correct solutions received from A. L. Pops, Barscoba, Problem, B. B. Miss Jane D. W. V. G. D. Billiter, I. Charlton, Dr. G. T. Dumpling, T. Matier, Thorpe, H. R. Vincent, J. G. G.

PROBLEM No. 1624.—Correct solutions received from H. R. Vincent, Thorpe, T. Charlton, Pops, The Duffer, East Marden, M. Rhodes, Pagoda, E. H. V. J. Lamb, Barrow Hedges, Wovley, F. H. Bennett, Figs, J. Riddpath, Ben Rhydding, H. E. Rainbach, R. G. Francis, E. Riddpath, J. K. W. G. F. G. I. S. T. H. Schleusner, M. E. J. G. G. Mrs. Pecksniff, Owllet, Tredinnock, M. A. Oxon, G. A. V. J. P. Olive Crookley, R. P. N. Banks, Bosworth, Emilie F. W. Airey, The Jay, Atz, W. Pickard, Miss Jane D. E. W. Fry, Lotia, Lancastrian, Camballo, Alice Way, Barscoba, Caesar and Pompey, J. E. M. F. H. T. A. Pagoda, Dumpling, Inagh, J. Collins.

## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1623.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q Kt 5th	B to K B sq	2. Q to K R 2nd	Anything
		3. Q mates	

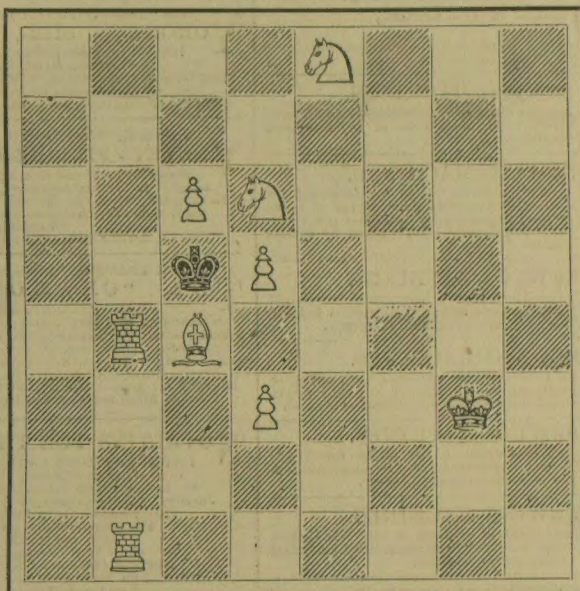
## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1624.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K R 6th	Anything	2. R, Q, or B mates	

## PROBLEM No. 1626.

By Mr. F. H. BENNETT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

## CHESS BY CORRESPONDENCE.

The two following Games were played recently, in the Correspondence Tourney of the British Chess Association, between the Rev. C. E. RANKEN and Mr. B. W. FISHER:—

## GAME I.

(Knight's Defence to the King's Bishop's Game.)

WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (Mr. R.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th
2. B to Q 4th	Kt to K B 3rd
3. Q to K 2nd	Kt to Q B 3rd

He might also have played 3. B to Q 4th at once, as in that case White would obtain a very inferior game if he ventured to take the King's Bishop's Pawn, checking.

4. P to Q 3rd	B to Q B 4th
5. P to Q 3rd	P to K R 3rd
6. Kt to K B 3rd	Castles
7. B to K 3rd	B to Q Kt 3rd
8. Q Kt to Q 2nd	R to K sq
9. B to Q Kt 3rd	

With the intention, apparently, of playing Kt to Q B 4th, and exchanging on the Knight for the hostile King's Bishop.

9. P to Q 4th
10. R to Q sq
11. Castles

This was by no means a good move. We should have preferred 11. Kt to K B sq, with the object of planting him at K Kt 3rd.

11. P to Q 5th
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Well played. From this point to the finish Mr. Ranken never once relaxes his grasp.

12. P takes P	P takes P
13. B to K B 4th	Kt to K R 4th
14. B to K Kt 3rd	B takes K B
15. Kt takes B	P to K B 4th
16. P to K R 3rd	

A fatal error, precipitating the inevitable collapse. He might have defended himself some time longer by 16. K Kt to Q 2nd; but, in any case, it must have been only a question of time.

16. P takes Kt	P takes P
17. P takes Kt	P takes P
18. Kt to K R 4th	Q to K Kt 4th
19. K to K 2nd	P takes P
20. Q takes P	Kt to K 4th
21. Q to K 4th	

This loses the exchange at once. He ought to have retired the Queen to Q B 2nd.

21. Kt to Q B 5th	Kt takes Kt P
22. Q to Q 3rd	Kt takes Kt P
23. Q to K B 3rd	Kt takes R
24. Q takes Kt	Q R to Q sq
25. Kt to B sq	P to Q 6th, and White resigned.

Stronger than R takes P.

At the first blun, 16. P to Q 4th looks more promising, but it would not prevent the on coming of the Rook's Pawn upon the doomed Bishop.

Better, we should have thought, to have taken the K B P with Bishop, checking.

Ingeniously played.

Quite good enough; but 19. Kt takes P would perhaps have been still more efficacious.

Had he played 20. R to K sq (ch) White would have interposed the Knight, and on Black's taking the K B P with Bishop, checking, have moved K to B sq.

21. Q takes B K R to K sq (ch) 22. Kt to K 4th Q takes B 23. P takes B P to Q 4th 24. Castles (K R) P takes Kt 25. Q to Q 4th (ch), and wins.

A quiet but by no means unimportant

## GAME II.

(Vienna Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. R.)	BLACK (Mr. F.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th
2. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd
3. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd
4. B to Q Kt 5th	B to Q B 4th

The game is now resolved into a well-known form of the Ruy Lopez.

5. P to Q 3rd	P to Q R 3rd
6. B to Q 4th	P to Q R 4th

This advance was premature. White obviously cannot capture the Knight and then win the Kt's Pawn. His best move, apparently, is P to R 3rd.

7. B to Q Kt 3rd	P to Q 3rd
8. B to K Kt 5th	Kt to Q R 4th

In this form of the opening it is usually good play to exchange this comparatively worthless Knight for the important adverse Bishop; but under existing circumstances, with the hostile Queen's Bishop posted ominously at K Kt 5th, the utility of the manoeuvre is questionable. Either 8. B to K 3rd or Kt to K 2nd, though neither of them, perhaps, satisfactory, would, we believe, have been preferable to the move in the text.

9. Kt to Q 5th	Kt takes B
10. Q R P takes Kt	B to K Kt 5th

This is simply playing the adversary's game. He ought to have moved 10. P to Q B 3rd; and, after the exchange of pieces, planted his Rook at K Kt sq.

11. P to K R 3rd	B to K R 4th
12. P to K Kt 4th	B to K Kt 3rd
13. P to Q Kt 4th	

A quiet but by no means unimportant

## WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, dated Nov. 13, 1855, of Mr. Joseph Love, formerly of Willington, but late of Mount Beulah, Durham, who died on Feb. 21 last, was proved on the 23rd ult. at the district registry, Durham, by Mrs. Sarah Love, the widow and sole executrix, the personal estate, including leasehold property, being sworn under £1,000,000. The testator bequeaths all his personal estate to his wife absolutely, and devises all his real estate to her, her heirs and assigns, for ever.

The will, dated May 13, 1874, of Mrs. Eliza Foulston, formerly of Athenian Cottage, Compton Giffard, Devonshire, but late of The Boltons, South Kensington, who died on Feb. 21 last, was proved on the 7th inst. by Daniel Warren, Wellington Ross Seymour, and Miss Eliza Johnson, the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £80,000. The testatrix bequeaths £100 Government stock to each of the following charitable and benevolent institutions—viz., to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road; the Royal Free Hospital, Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate; St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington; the Cancer Hospital, Brompton; St. Peter's Hospital, Berners-street, Oxford-street; the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool-road, Islington; the Middlesex Hospital, Charles-street, Tottenham-court-road; the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Blomfield-street, Moorfields; the Hospital for Women, Soho-square; the British Home for Incurables, Clapham-rise; the Smallpox Hospital, Whittington-place, Upper Holloway; the London Hospital, Hammersmith; University College Hospital, Gower-street; King's College Hospital, Portugal-street, Lincoln's Inn; St. John's Hospital for Skin Diseases, Leicester-square; the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, Sackville-street; the National Life-Boat Institution; the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, at Plymouth; the Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars; the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy; and the Hospital for Incurables, Putney-hill. Among the other bequests may be mentioned—to her god-daughter, the said Eliza Johnson, her residence, Ryton Lodge, the Boltons, with the stables, all her furniture, and £32,500 stock to purchase an annuity of the National Debt Commissioners; and to her godson, John Foulston Hunt, of £20,000 stock to purchase a similar annuity, conditionally on his taking the name of Foulston as his final name and using the arms of that family, besides some specific gifts of freehold and leasehold property. Miss Eliza Johnson is named residuary legatee.

The will and codicil of Mr. George Jeremy, late of Lincoln's Inn, and Lea Coombe House, Axminster, barrister-at-law, who died on Dec. 31 last, have just been proved at the Exeter district registry by Edward Clarke and John Bent Lukin, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £45,000. The testator devises his real estate upon trusts for sale, and to pay the proceeds thereof to his cousin, Mrs. Charlotte Anne Fownes Luttrell, subject to the payment of £15,000 Consols for the benefit of her children. Out of his personal estate testator bequeaths to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, the Taunton and Somerset Hospital, and the trustees and guardians of the treasury of the University of Cambridge, £1000 New Three per Cent Annuities each; to the Church Missionary Society, and to the Hospital for Incurables at Putney, £500 each; to the Shipwrecked Fishermen's and Mariners' Society, £300; to the Society for Missions to Seamen, £200; and legacies to his executors and others. The residue is to be distributed amongst such of his relatives by blood on the side of his father, within the degrees of first and second cousins, as were born in Wales and living at the time of his decease. By Mr. Jeremy's death the following legacies under the will of his late wife now become payable, free of legacy duty—viz., to the British and Foreign Bible Society, the National Life-Boat Institution, and the Religious Tract Society, £1000 each; and to the Asylum or School of Industry for the Blind and the Asylum for Orphans, £500 each.

The will, dated Oct. 29, 1859, of the late Sir Goldsworthy Gurney, who died Feb. 28 last, has been proved under a nominal sum by his daughter, Miss Anna Jane Gurney, the universal legatee named in the will.

Lord Derby has instructed the British Ambassador at Constantinople to require from the Roumanian Government full satisfaction for the recent outrage on Mr. and Mrs. Dodshon, near Galatz.

A large number of young Englishwomen of education, who have been benefited by the Home for English Governesses in Paris, have presented an address to Mrs. Forbes, accompanied by a lady's travelling-bag, handsomely fitted, as a token of their gratitude for many acts of kindness received from her. During the past year 202 have been received into the home, and above 2000 applications for advice or assistance made.

It has been represented to the Postmaster-General that, according to the laws of Austria, the transmission by post of letters containing any articles of value which are liable to customs duties is forbidden, and that all letters believed to contain any such article are liable to be detained and not delivered to the addresses until the customs duties have been paid. The Postmaster-General thinks it right to make this prohibition known to the public.

The following material alterations in the programme for the approaching season were made at a meeting of the sailing committee of the Royal London Yacht Club, held at the clubhouse, Regent-street, on Thursday week:—Saturday, May 15: First-class cutters, exceeding 40 tons; prize, £100. Course, Erith to the Nore and back to Rosherville. Time allowance, 20 sec. per ton up to 80 tons; 15 sec. above. Second-class cutters, from 21 tons to 40 tons; prize, £80. Course, Erith to the Nore and back to Rosherville. Time allowance, 30 sec. per ton. Third-class cutters, 11 tons to 20 tons; prize, £40. Course, Erith to the east buoy of Leigh Middle and back to Rosherville. Time allowance, 1 min. per ton. Wednesday, June 30: Fourth-class cutters, not exceeding 10 tons. Course, Erith, round the Middle Bligh buoy and back to Erith. Time allowance, 1 min. per half ton. To start from and weigh their own anchors. All else remains unaltered.

One of the daughters of the Shah of Persia was married to a priest, by name Imâm Jume'h, in Teheran, last January. The bride is said to be twenty and her husband thirty-five. The popular rumour in Teheran declares that the happy pair intensely dislike one another, but, for certain State reasons, have consented to the union. The populace are by no means enthusiastic about the match, although the marriage has been celebrated with extraordinary magnificence, and that they fully appreciate. The well-known Persian scholar, Herr Schindler, writes thus about the wedding:—"The bride, veiled and covered with what looked like a waving mass of molten gold, was taken to her husband's house at half-past nine; soldiers, with candles in the muzzles of their guns, lined the road; and the walls of the houses were illuminated with oil lamps; and as the Princess left her father's palace guns were fired and fireworks let off. With dawn salvos of artillery thundered and shook Teheran, and a day of feasting followed."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.



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